

WHEREAS, the City of Galesburg, in the state of Illinois, has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aircraft manufacturing, aviation educational institutions, aviation organizations and community airports; and

WHEREAS, general aviation and the Galesburg Municipal Airport have an economic impact on the City of Galesburg; and

WHEREAS, general aviation airports in the state of Illinois supports over \$9 billion in total economic output; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Galesburg's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting and disaster relief, and by transporting business travelers to their destinations quickly and safely; and

WHEREAS, these aircraft and our network of airports represent a national public benefit, and Congressional oversight should be in place of this system to ensure that it remains a public system and serves communities of all sizes; and

WHEREAS, general aviation has been deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, causing an impact on operations, jobs, and dependent industries, sectors and communities; and

WHEREAS, general aviation stands to be at the forefront of the overall economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, the United States faces a shortage of aviation professionals, leaders should invest in this critical infrastructure to ensure future economic growth and our next generation of aviation professionals and pilots; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, John Pritchard, Mayor of the City of Galesburg, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic asset to the City of Galesburg and declare December as

## **GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH**

Dated this 1st day of December 2020

Mayor John Pritchard