Town of Leonardion

## GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH MAY 2024

WHEREAS, Leonardtown in the state of Maryland has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation with a close economic tie to the St. Mary's County Regional Airport; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Economic Impact of Public Use Airports in Maryland study found that general aviation airports in the state support annual business revenues of \$867 million, more than 9,900 jobs, and a payroll of \$582 million; and a local economic impact of \$35.4 million annually and according to the Maryland Aviation Administration, the state has 35 publicuse airports. These airports serve almost 9,400 pilots and almost 2,200 registered aircraft; and

WHEREAS general aviation improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting, disaster relief, investments in sustainable fuels and technologies, and investments in innovative experimental technology like Vertical Takeoff and Landing vehicles, and by transporting business travelers to their destinations quickly and safely and 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

WHEREAS, the National Celebration of GA Flyover in Washington, D.C. commemorates the last 85 years in general aviation and the 85th anniversary of the founding of Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA);

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the Commissioners of Leonardtown, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH.

THIS DATE: May 2024

Daniel W. Burfis Mayor

Maguire Maningly IV, Vice President

Mick Colvin, Council Member

Heather M. Earhart, Council Member

Christy Hollander, Council Member

Mary Maday Slade, Council Member