Proclamation

General Aviation Appreciation Month—February 2021

Whereas, The City of Martinsburg in the State of West Virginia 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 Eastern West Virginia Regional Airport have an immense economic impact on the City of Martinsburg; and

Whereas, general aviation in West Virginia contributes over \$1 Billion to the state's economy, annually; and

Whereas, general aviation not only supports West Virginia's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting and disaster relief, investments in sustainable fuels and technologies, 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 and leaders should invest in this critical infrastructure to ensure future economic growth and our next generation of aviation professionals and pilots; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that I, Harriet Johnson, Mayor of Martinsburg in the State of West Virginia hereby proclaim February 2021 as:

General Aviation Appreciation Month

in the City of Martinsburg and encourage all citizens to recognize the vital strategic resource that aviation is in West Virginia

Signed this 11th day of February, 2021

Attest:

Gena Long, City Recorder

Mayor Harriet Johnson