



PROCLAMATION

General Aviation Appreciation Month

WHEREAS, New Iberia in the state of Louisiana 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 Acadiana Regional Airport have a significant economic impact on the City of New Iberia; and

WHEREAS the 2022 Louisiana Airports Economic Impact Study Update found that general aviation airports in the state support an annual economic impact of \$1.1 billion, more than 10,600 jobs, and a total payroll of over \$459 million; and

WHEREAS, according to the FAA, the state has 61 general aviation airports. These airports serve more than 6,200 pilots and 3,550 registered aircraft; and

WHEREAS, according to the FAA, the state is home to 29 repair stations, 8 FAA-approved pilot schools, more than 2,300 student pilots, and over 900 flight instructors; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Louisiana's economy, but it also 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 investments in innovative experimental technology like Vertical Takeoff and Landing vehicles, and by transporting business travelers to their destinations quickly and safely; 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Freddie DeCourt, Mayor of the City of New Iberia, do hereby proclaim July 2023 as

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto have set my hand and caused the seal of the City of New Iberia to be affixed this 7th Day August 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Freddie DeCourt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Freddie DeCourt, Mayor
City of New Iberia, Louisiana