

Proclamation

City of Owatonna

- WHEREAS The City of Owatonna in the State of Minnesota 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 Owatonna Degner Regional Airport have an immense economic impact on the City of Owatonna; and
- WHEREAS, Minnesota is home to 135 public system airports, which serve 12,483 pilots and 5,679 registered and airworthy aircraft; and
- WHEREAS, Minnesota is home to 111 fixed-base operators, 50 repair stations, 83 heliports, 13 FAA-approved pilot schools, 2,466 flight students and 2,679 flight instructors; and
- WHEREAS, general aviation in Minnesota contributes over \$5.3 billion to the state's total economic output; and
- WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Minnesota'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, the nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important public benefit, and Congressional oversight should be in place to ensure it remains a public system and serves communities of all sizes;

THEREFORE, I, Thomas Kuntz, Mayor of Owatonna, Minnesota, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the City of Owatonna and declare November 2018 to be

General Aviation Appreciation Month

In the City of Owatonna.

Dated this <u>5th</u> day of November, 2018.

Thomas A. Kuntz, Mayor