

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Sterling in the state of Colorado 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 Sterling Municipal Airport have a significant economic impact on the City of Sterling; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2020 Colorado Aviation Economic Impact Study found that airports in the state support annual business revenues of \$48.6 billion, more than 345,000 jobs, and a payroll of \$16.2 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the FAA, the state has 70 public-use airports. These airports serve almost 22,000 pilots and more than 6,900 registered aircraft; and

**WHEREAS**, general aviation in Colorado contributes over \$2.4 billion to the state's economy; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the FAA, the state is home to 75 repair stations, 14 FAA-approved pilot schools, almost 6,700 student pilots, and over 4,400 flight instructors; and

**WHEREAS**, general aviation not only supports Colorado's economy, it 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

**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, Matthew Foos, Mayor of the City of Sterling, do hereby proclaim January 2024 as

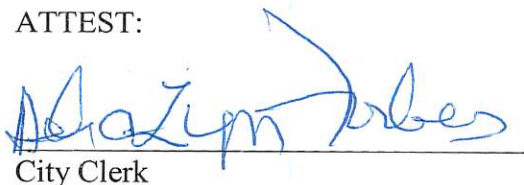
**GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH**

in the City of Sterling, Colorado.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the City of Sterling.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
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City Clerk