



## *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the City of Gastonia in the state of North Carolina 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 Gastonia Municipal Airport have an important economic impact on the City of Gastonia; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is home to 62 publicly-owned general aviation airports, which serve 13,771 active pilots and 6,771 active general aviation aircraft; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is home to 84 fixed-base operators, 63 repair stations, 463 heliports, 16 FAA-approved pilot schools, 2,539 flight students and 2,532 flight instructors; and

**WHEREAS**, the total economic output of general aviation airports in North Carolina is over \$4 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, general aviation not only supports North Carolina'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 stable funding of this system;

**THEREFORE**, I, John D. Bridgeman, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the City of Gastonia and declare June as

### GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.

ATTEST:

*Sherry H. Dunaway*  
Sherry H. Dunaway, City Clerk

*John D. Bridgeman*  
John D. Bridgeman, Mayor

