

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Benson in the state of Arizona 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 Benson Municipal Airport have a significant economic impact on the City of Benson; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Arizona Aviation Economic Impact Study found that general aviation airports in the state support an annual economic impact of \$3.3 billion; in addition, state airports overall support more than 386,000 jobs and a total payroll of over \$20.4 billion; and

WHEREAS, according to the FAA, the state has 78 general aviation airports. These airports serve more than 26,000 pilots and 7,800 registered aircraft; and

WHEREAS, according to the FAA, the state is home to 155 repair stations, 24 FAA-approved pilot schools, almost 8,000 student pilots, and almost 5,000 flight instructors; and


WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Arizona'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 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, Joe A. Konrad, Mayor of the City of Benson, Arizona, do hereby proclaim August as

"GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Benson, Arizona, on this 14th day of August 2023.


JOE A. KONRAD, Mayor

ATTEST:

VICKI L. VIVIAN, CMC, City Clerk