

Office of the Mayor

LaGrange, Georgia

Proclamation

WHEREAS, LaGrange in the state of Georgia 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 LaGrange Callaway Airport have a significant economic impact on The City of LaGrange; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Georgia Statewide Airport Economic Impact Study found that general aviation airports in the state support annual business revenues of more than \$1.9 billion, more than 14,500 jobs, and a payroll of over \$600 million; and a local economic impact annually of \$16.5 million; and

WHEREAS, according to the Georgia Department of Transportation, the state has 95 public-use airports. These airports serve almost 22,700 pilots and more than 8,000 registered aircraft; and

WHEREAS, according to the FAA, the state is home to 132 repair stations, 15 FAA-approved pilot schools, more than 7,200 student pilots, and more than 4,100 flight instructors; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Georgia'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, & 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; and

WHEREAS, the National Celebration of GA Flyover in Washington, D.C. commemorates the last 85 years in general aviation and the 85th anniversary of the founding of Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA);

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Quay Boddie, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of LaGrange, do here by proclaim May 2024 as:

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH



In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed.

[Handwritten Signature]

Attest: *[Handwritten Signature]*

Date: *May 1, 2024*