PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING APRIL 2016 AS GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

WHEREAS, the City of Joplin, Missouri 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 Joplin Regional Airport have an immense economic impact on the City of Joplin; and

WHEREAS, Missouri is home to 115 public-use general aviation airports which serve 9,087 pilots and 3,953 active general aviation aircraft; and

WHEREAS, Missouri is home to 95 fixed-based operators, 55 repair stations, 547 heliports, 6 FAA-approved pilot schools, 1,732 flight students and 1, 610 flight instructors; and

WHEREAS, general aviation airports in Missouri support an economic impact of over \$857 million annually; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Missouri'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.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Seibert, Mayor of the City of Joplin, Missouri and on behalf of the Joplin City Council, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the City of Joplin and declare April 2016 as **GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH.**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Joplin to be affixed this 4th day of April, 2016.

Michael L. Seibert, Mayor