

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the city of Mankato in the state of Minnesota 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 Mankato Regional Airport have significant economic impact on the city of Mankato; including more than \$18 million in local economic impact and more than 220 jobs; and

WHEREAS, through a partnership, Minnesota State University, Mankato—the only four-year aviation degree program in Minnesota—trains approximately 350 active flight students at the Mankato Regional Airport annually. This number is up around 15 percent due to a job market surge.

WHEREAS, the more than \$18 million in local economic impact includes airport ownership, fixed-base operators and other aviation businesses, retail business, overnight use by pilots and other visitors, business use and non-profit or government entities; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota is home to 135 public-use airports, which serve around 12,800 pilots and 5,679 active general aviation aircraft, 111 fixed-based operators, 50 repair stations, 83 heliports; and


WHEREAS, general aviation in Minnesota contributes over \$5.3 billion to the state's economy annually; and it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, public safety, 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, Najwa Massad, Mayor of Mankato, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the city of Mankato and declare December 2019 as "**General Aviation Appreciation Month**," in the city of Mankato, Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of the City of Mankato to be affixed this 12th day of November 2019.





Najwa Massad, Mayor