

Proclamation

"Washington General Aviation Appreciation Month" *June 2014*

WHEREAS, general aviation and community airports play a critical role in the lives of our citizens, as well as in the operation of our businesses, industry, ranches, and farms; and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions, aviation organizations, community airports, and airport operators; and

WHEREAS, Washington State has 135 public use airports serving 20,028 pilots and 7,585 general aviation aircraft and public use airports support 248,500 jobs, \$15.3 billion in wages, and \$50.9 billion in total economic activity; and

WHEREAS, general aviation plays a vital role in the State's response to emergencies and natural disasters, and many communities in Washington depend heavily on general aviation and community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists, and visitors to our state; and

WHEREAS, the nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important, public benefit, and direct, congressional oversight is necessary to ensure stable funding of this system.

WHEREAS, Washington is home to 59 charter flight companies, 116 repair stations, and 24 flight schools operating 181 aircraft and providing 360 jobs. In addition, there are 64 fixed-based operators in the state.

WHEREAS, Pasco has a rich history in aviation including being a part of the first airmail service in the nation in 1926; the current airport location having been developed in 1929; the airport having played an important role in the training of pilots and the operations of the military during World War II; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Pasco has operated the Tri-Cities Airport since 1963; the airport now being the 4th largest in the state of Washington and serving a population in excess of 1 million; and

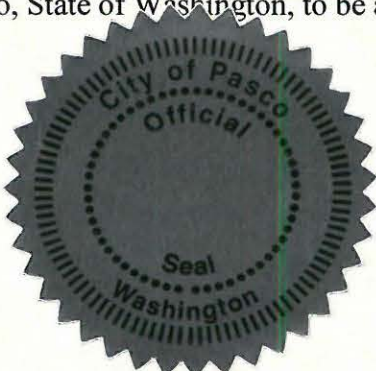
WHEREAS, the Tri-Cities airport is also home to Bergstrom Aircraft, operating since 1971, now a multigenerational aviation company providing aircraft service and maintenance, flight school, rentals and charters to the greater Tri-Cities community,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Matt Watkins, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Pasco, Washington, do hereby proclaim June 2014 to be

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and hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the City of Pasco and State of Washington.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Pasco, State of Washington, to be affixed this 12th day of June 2014.



Matt Watkins, Mayor
City of Pasco