

**GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION  
MONTH PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS: the city of Benson 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 Benson Municipal Airport has an immense economic impact on the city of Benson; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota is home to 153 public-use airports, which serve 12,478 pilots and 4,365 active general aviation aircraft; and


WHEREAS, Minnesota is home to 109 fixed-based operators, 51 repair stations, 522 heliports, 11 FAA-approved pilot schools, 1,933 flight students and 2,500 flight instructors; and

WHEREAS, general aviation in Minnesota contributes over \$5.3 billion to the state's economy annually; and

WHEREAS: general aviation not only supports Minnesota's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law-enforcement, firefighting, 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;

THEREFORE, I, Paul Kittelson, Mayor of Benson, Minnesota, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the city of Benson and declare October 2015 to be General Aviation Appreciation Month.

  
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Mayor