PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, general aviation and community airports play a critical role in the lives of citizens, as well as in the operation of businesses and farms, in the response to emergencies and natural disasters, and for the continued flow of commerce, tourists, and visitors to the community; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aerospace, air craft manufacturing, educational institutions, aviation organizations, community airports and airport operators; and

WHEREAS, Missouri boasts 124 public-use general aviation airports, serving 9,284 pilots and 3,847 general aviation aircrafts, and is home to 31 charter flight companies, 54 airport repair stations, one fractional provider, and eight flight schools operating 86 aircrafts; and

WHEREAS, organizations like the Missouri Airport Managers Association, the Missouri Pilots Association, the National Business Aviation Association, the National Association of State Aviation Officials, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the Alliance for Aviation Across America, and the National Air Transportation Association recognize and promote the interests and importance of aviation; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Transportation found that general aviation generates \$857 million in economic activity annually, and the 2013 Missouri Statewide Airports Economic Impact Study found general aviation supports 7,449 jobs statewide while the Missouri's airport system supports 100,621 jobs with an annual payroll of \$3.1 billion; and

WHEREAS, many communities in Missouri depend heavily on general aviation and community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists and visitors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert McDavid, Mayor of the City of Columbia, Missouri, do hereby proclaim May, 2015 as

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

in the City of Columbia, Missouri.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed hereto the seal of the City of Columbia, this 1st day of May, 2015.

Robert McDavid, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheela Amin, City Clerk