

Grand Junction

State of Colorado

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, *travel has a positive effect on Grand Junction, Colorado and it also impacts business productivity, economic development, and each individual travelers' well-being; and*

WHEREAS, *travel to and within the United States provides significant economic benefits for the nation, generating more than \$2.1 trillion in economic output in 2014, with \$927.9 billion spent directly by travelers; and*

WHEREAS, *travelers' spending directly generated tax revenues of \$141.5 billion for federal, state, and local governments, funds used to support essential services and programs nationally; and*

WHEREAS, *Grand Junction and surrounding communities in Mesa County welcomed over 1,000,000 visitors staying in local lodging properties, received \$269 million in direct travel spending, \$8 million in local taxes, and over 3,000 local jobs were reported in 2013; and*

WHEREAS, *over 15,000 visitors use the Grand Junction Visitor Center, representing over 50 foreign countries and the U.S., plus over 500,000 people gain valuable travel inspiration by going to Visit Grand Junction's website to plan their trip to Grand Junction, annually; and*

WHEREAS, *international travel to the United States is the nation's No. 1 services export. In 2014, travel generated \$220.6 billion in exports, creating a \$74 billion trade surplus for the United States. The Grand Junction Visitor & Convention Bureau works with 226 international tour companies annually to bring guests from around the world to Grand Junction; and*

WHEREAS, *the Grand Junction Visitor & Convention Bureau has been marketing the area for 25 years; supporting hundreds of local tourism attractions, events and restaurants, including 22 wineries, 41 lodging properties, and hosting over 140 conventions and groups each year; and*

WHEREAS, *leisure travel, which accounts for more than three-quarters of all trips taken in the United States, spurs countless benefits to travelers' health and wellness, creativity, cultural awareness, education, happiness, productivity, and relationships; and*

WHEREAS, *travel is one of the top three industries in the state of Colorado and is a driver of economic growth to Grand Junction.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phyllis Norris, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim May 2 - 10, 2015 as

"NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK"

in the City of Grand Junction, and urge citizens of Grand Junction and surrounding communities to join the City Council in this special observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 6th day of May, 2015.

Phyllis Norris
Mayor

