

# DENVER CITY COUNCIL



## Proclamation

### Proclamation No. 25-0166 Celebrating Denver International Airport's 30 Years of Operations

**WHEREAS**, Denver International Airport (DEN) opened on February 28, 1995, built upon on 53 square miles with the ability to double in size from six to 12 runways; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction of DEN and creation of Peña Boulevard to connect DEN and I-70 was first championed by former Mayor Federico Peña, the first Latino mayor of Denver, and DEN was seen to completion by former Mayor Wellington E. Webb, the first Black mayor of Denver; and

**WHEREAS**, DEN is currently led by Phillip A. Washington, the first Black CEO of Denver International Airport, who has championed a revitalization of the airport; and

**WHEREAS**, DEN has served as Colorado's primary commercial service airport, and as the region's largest economic engine, employing over 41,000 employees, DEN is preparing staff and facilities to serve a quickly approaching traffic level of 100 million annual passengers; and

**WHEREAS**, over its 30 years of operations, DEN has served nearly 1.5 billion passengers and has become North America's third-busiest airport (in 2024), as it has connected Colorado to the globe with its partner airlines offering more than 220 nonstop destinations; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout its continuous growth, DEN has prioritized the passenger experience with a Colorado flair. From featuring local cuisine in its concessions, local art by local artists, volunteer ambassadors with cowboy hats, memorable events, and the world's largest airport therapy animal program, it has become one of Colorado's foremost promoters; and

**WHEREAS**, DEN has used its growing global influence to demonstrate sustainable construction and operational practices, including reducing the airport's carbon footprint by plugging all abandoned oil wells and installing more solar panels on the property; and

**WHEREAS**, DEN is leading the way in developing a diverse workforce and local business partnerships through its one-of-a-kind Center of Equity and Excellence in Aviation that will introduce young people to the aviation industry and create career pathways for thousands of young people; and

**WHEREAS**, DEN's iconic tented-terminal with 34 Teflon-coated peaks was designed to be reflective of Colorado's snow-capped mountains and has become an internationally recognized symbol of Denver for the past 30 years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE DENVER CITY COUNCIL:**

**Section 1.** That the Denver City Council extends sincere commendations to Denver International Airport in recognition of its 30th Anniversary.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and transmit a copy to CEO of Denver International Airport Phil Washington.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL February 24, 2025

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PRESIDENT

