



**SHREVEPORT AIRPORT AUTHORITY**  
SHREVEPORT REGIONAL AIRPORT • SHREVEPORT DOWNTOWN AIRPORT  
City of Shreveport



***Air Traffic Control Tower at Shreveport  
Downtown Airport Slated to Close April 7<sup>th</sup>,  
Airport Will Remain Open***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: Friday, March 22, 2013  
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On Friday afternoon, March 22, Shreveport Airport Authority received notice from the Federal Aviation Administration that the air traffic control tower at the Shreveport Downtown Airport (DTN) is on the list of towers that will be closed on Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Despite efforts beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> to keep the control tower in operation, which included a letter to the FAA explaining the safety and economic impact of closing the tower, the Federal Aviation Administration included DTN on the final tower closure list.

“This is an unfortunate event, and we had hoped for a better outcome,” said Director of Airports for the Shreveport Airport Authority, Bryant L. Francis. “We will work with our various representatives, the DTN airport community and city leaders to gain additional support for the tower. Our first concern is safety at DTN.”

Locally and nationally elected officials were contacted by members of the Shreveport Downtown Airport community as well as Airport Authority staff, requesting their support of an amendment that would keep 189 control towers open. Ultimately those efforts were unsuccessful and only 24 of the original 189 towers slated to close were spared.

“I am very proud of the efforts put forth by the Shreveport Downtown Airport tenants in regards to keeping our tower open. Even though we united together and fought passionately, DTN still made the tower closure list. The Shreveport Downtown Airport will remain open and safety is the top priority as we explore other avenues to re-open the control tower,” said Stacy Kuba, Manager of the Shreveport Downtown Airport.

The annual operating costs for the control tower at the Shreveport Downtown Airport are \$400,000+ annually.

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The Shreveport Downtown Airport opened in 1931 with commercial airline service with Delta Air Lines. The route consisted of Dallas to Shreveport and on to Monroe, Louisiana, and to Jackson, Mississippi. In the 83 years since opening the Shreveport Downtown Airport has grown to be the largest general aviation airport in Louisiana with 316 aircraft based there.