

## December 18, 2012 - Mayor Supports Plan to Supply Better-Trained Workforce

The Shreveport Bossier Business Alliance for Higher Education is launching an initiative to align businesses and post-secondary institutions in order to enhance the ability of local colleges and universities to meet the current and future workforce needs of employers.

The SBBA, a non-profit organization that promotes economic development in Northwest Louisiana, made its official launch today and received the full support of Mayor Cedric B. Glover.

“It’s indeed a pleasure to see the Shreveport Bossier Alliance for Higher Education take on the exciting challenge to further solidify our standing as the economic and educational hub for Northwest Louisiana,” Mayor Glover said.

Mayor Glover has a long standing history of support for higher education and this historic launch falls right in line with other causes his administration has championed, such as:

- The effort for the independent Chancellor at the LSUHC-Shreveport campus
- Support of the growth of Southern University-Shreveport at both the main campus and the downtown campus
- Advocating for LSUS to become a fully comprehensive university, inclusive of region appropriate and necessary graduate, PhD and research components
- Appropriating and contracting for engineering and design services of more than \$500,000 for infrastructure improvements and upgrades around the current LSUHSC-Shreveport campus as called for the current campus leadership as well as the Shreveport-Caddo 2030 Master Plan
- Making the commitment to finding the \$5 million to \$10 million needed in 2013 to actually construct these improvements

“As Mayor, I fully understand the benefit that comes with having a well-trained workforce already in place as we continue to attract new businesses to our area,” Glover said. “And this also keeps us equally attractive to those businesses already here with the capacity to expand and extend their reach beyond our community.

“So I can’t help but support the pro-active and forward-thinking the SBBA is bringing to the table and I look forward to helping to frame the strategies needed to make sure our workforce is prepared to meet the ever-changing needs of employers doing business in our great city.”

-SHREVEPORT-

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