

CITY OF SHREVEPORT

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PRESS RELEASE

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Calling all Hoops Fans - the Proposed NBA G-League “Shreveport Pelicans” Needs Your Support!

The City of Shreveport is one of only six cities still in the running to land the New Orleans Pelican NBA G-League team. One of the ways to boost Shreveport’s chances in having the high-performance professional sport team come to our community is to show as much excitement and enthusiasm as possible from the fans. Therefore, the City will be hosting a **“Shreveport Pelican” Pep Rally,** at 6 p.m. **Thursday, May 25th at the new BHP Billiton YMCA, located at 3455 Knight St.** All fans should show up in their best New Orleans Pelican or other NBA gear.

As part of the City’s Request for Proposal (RFP) that will be submitted next month, a video commercial highlighting our area will be included. Those who attend the Pep Rally will have an opportunity to be filmed in this exciting media tool to lure the team to our city.

“Shreveport is extremely excited to be invited by the Pelicans to submit an RFP for their NBA G-League team,” said Mayor Ollie S. Tyler. “This is a great opportunity for not only the City of Shreveport, but the entire region in providing a great family-friendly venue, as well as creating a significant economic driver in job creation and attracting outside tourism for the city’s future success.”

The G-League is the NBA's premier minor league affiliate, which has grown rapidly in recent years. Cities with G-League teams have experienced millions of dollars in economic growth.

Mayor Tyler is proposing a new downtown sports complex that will not only be home to the NBA G-League team, but also provide a mid-sized sports event center (3,500-5,000 seats) for year-round activity. That activity could include local, state and regional basketball, volleyball, tennis, gymnastics, boxing, cheer competitions, indoor field hockey, soccer, and lacrosse tournaments, just to name a few. The decision for this type multi-use sports complex was based on information and research of other successful mid-sized NBA G-League cities. The Pelican’s new development team will begin its 2018-2019 season in the selected city.

-Shreveport-