

Contact:

Lyman Lasco McKellar

Marketing and Communications Manager

Lyman.McKellar@shreveportla.gov

318-423-9215 (cell)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 19, 2025

Ribbon Cutting Celebrates New Roof at Shreveport Aquarium

The City of Shreveport and SPAR are proud to invite the public and media to a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Shreveport Aquarium (formerly the Barnwell Dome) to celebrate the completion of the facility's brand-new roof. The event will take place on Thursday, November 20, at 11:00 a.m.

Located at the Shreveport Aquarium is a signature attraction for our community and a valued component of our downtown and riverfront redevelopment efforts. This roofing project ensures that the facility remains safe, energy-efficient, and welcoming for both residents and visitors.

The roofing project was funded entirely by Shreveport voters through the 2024 Bond, demonstrating the community's support for reinvesting in critical public facilities. Terry's Roofing and Sheet Metal completed the work for \$757,000. The project scope included removal of the aging roof membrane, structural improvements, installation of high-efficiency insulation, and enhanced waterproofing to protect the historic dome structure.

This investment reflects the City's commitment to maintaining high-quality recreation and cultural assets, supporting tourism, and preserving its built-environment heritage.

"Investing in our city's assets is investing in our future," said Mayor Tom Arceneaux. "The Shreveport Aquarium is not only a place of wonder and education for families and children, but also a key part of downtown's vibrancy. By completing this roof project, we're ensuring it remains a safe and inviting destination for many years to come."

"Shelly Ragle, Director of SPAR, said: "The Parks & Recreation team is proud to have managed this critical infrastructure upgrade. It underscores SPAR's mission to maintain top-tier facilities for our community, both for everyday enjoyment and for the many events that bring us together. The Aquarium is a highlight among our venues, and this roofing project ensures its long-term viability."

"With the completion of the new dome roof, we're entering an exciting new chapter," said Karen Whitehead, Marketing Director of the Shreveport Aquarium. "This improvement protects our animals, enhances the guest experience, and sets the stage for more growth and community programs, including our upcoming Believe! Lights the Night holiday event, where thousands of visitors will experience the magic of Christmas beneath this beautifully restored dome, a one-of-a-kind, nationally recognized architectural masterpiece."

####