

2018 RELIEVER AIRPORT OF THE YEAR AWARD

This year's award winning airport has seen a flurry of improvements over the past few years with no impact on air traffic operations; a testament to the manager's open communication style of leadership.

As part of his proactive approach towards open communications, the airport convenes regular construction meetings. Air traffic personnel, including local airside businesses, and the airport staff actively participate in safety management system assessments, discuss and mitigate any potential safety risks consistent with FAA requirements, and routinely place movement area safety at the forefront during any project discussion.

Here are some of the most significant recent airport projects:

- Construction of a new South Hangar access taxi way that will accommodate up to ten, 60' x 60' hangars. One new hangar has been built since completion of the taxiway
- Completed roof replacement on the airport terminal
- Completed engineering for several Capital Improvement Projects - including 4.2 miles of perimeter fencing, rehabilitation of all five airport taxiways, rehabilitation of the north hangar aprons and rehabilitation of Runway 14/32.
- Enacted an annual driver training program for all airport and fixed base operator employees, which has helped decrease the number of runway incursions
- Additionally, airport maintenance staff are annually trained in Part 139 Inspections and are much better equipped to communicate with ATC and perform airfield safety inspections

The airport is currently working on building permits to build an eight unit T-hangar and two, 60' x 60' box hangars, and they are working on bid specifications to rehabilitate the airport traffic control tower. Some of the repairs to the tower are a result of damage received during Hurricane Harvey.

In this airport's nomination letter, it was noted "The airport manager has done an exceptional job managing the airport and its facilities. He has been instrumental in the professional development of his airport and his efforts have proven to be successful in ensuring significant growth and increased user activity. The airport has shown a steady activity growth trend over the last five years which can be directly attributed to the infrastructure improvements that have been accomplished on the airport."

Please join me in congratulating **Galveston Scholes International Airport as the 2018 General Aviation Reliever Airport of the Year.**