

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Landmark Agreement will Deliver a Minimum \$32M Investment to the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport**

BIRMINGHAM, AL (April 18, 2023) - A new Fixed Based Operator (FBO) has signed a lease to begin operations at the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport (BHM). The new operator is Austin based Million Air, who will build new hangars and a new terminal to service aviation users at BHM. Million Air currently operates similar aviation businesses in 38 airport locations across the United States. After participating in a rigorous public proposal process, Million Air was selected to take over the East side FBO at the airport. The official signing of the agreement between the Birmingham Airport Authority and Million Air Birmingham was the last phase of the process which began more than a year ago.

“This partnership represents a lot of hard work and a commitment to elevating our game here at the airport,” said Bill Smith, Member of the Board of the Birmingham Airport Authority and Chair of the Review Committee. “Million Air is committed to making a huge investment in this community and creating an upscale experience for all customers,” said Smith.

### **What is an FBO?**

FBO’s are similar to full-service fuel and convenience stations that specifically cater to General Aviation, commercial, and military aircraft. FBO’s typically offer aircraft fueling, parking, storage, and maintenance, along with flight planning support services, and a long list of other amenities. FBO agreements at commercial airports are normally structured to include a pledge of significant capital improvements in exchange for a longer-term land lease agreement. At the end of the term, the improvements revert to airport ownership.

### **How will Million Air Change the Landscape at BHM?**

Million Air’s Development Plan includes:

- A new 10,000 SF terminal to serve pilots, aircraft owners and guests, military, and corporate business travelers

- A new 24,000 SF Community Lite Aviation Hangar – designed specifically for smaller, privately owned aircraft
- Two new 30,000 SF Community Corporate Hangars
- A total of 94,000 SF in new development

"We are proud to partner with Birmingham Airport Authority, whose commitments to the airport's growth and development are paralleled with our own," said Roger Woolsey, CEO of Million Air. "Our plans are to develop a fully modernized Million Air Birmingham. We are confident we can deliver a facility, level of service, and amenities that will be unrivaled at this airport."

The new terminal and hangars will replace old ones at the current East side location, some of which were built back in the 1960s and 1970's. The new facilities will make room for servicing and storing General Aviation aircraft of all sizes.

In addition to the investment in new facilities, Million Air is proposing to raise the bar at BHM with amenities like:

- Starbucks with staffed baristas
- Mercedes crew cars
- Valet parking for customer vehicles
- Pilot's lounge
- Hertz Rental Car on site
- Dedicated concierge services

The addition of Million Air at BHM also creates competition on the airfield for the first time in many years. Million Air will begin operating out of the existing east side facilities on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **About Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport**

As Alabama's largest commercial airport, Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport has served as a gateway to the sky for more than 90 years. Governed by the Birmingham Airport Authority, the airport continues to be a catalyst for growth and economic development for the entire region. For more information, visit [flybhm.com](http://flybhm.com) or follow BHM on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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