

## Strengths

Summary	Rank
Culture/community spirit/people/festivals/arts/spirit/family/food/religion/charity/safe	1
ULL	2
Locally owned businesses, diversity in employment and business opportunities	3
Small town, big city amenities; great place to raise a family	4
Supports innovation and entrepreneurship and has districts for this	5
Downtown evolution - good cultural and business center	6
Outdoors, greenery, river	6
Very progressive	6
Value freedom, don't rely on government, strong middle class	6
Medical services	6

## Weaknesses

Summary	Rank
Transportation infrastructure does not adequately support automobile traffic, bicyclists, and pedestrian traffic; need a Loop around City	1
Poor public education and poor education infrastructure, lack of competition	2
Bad gateways, abandoned neighborhoods, bad overall aesthetics/urban design, bad commercial development	3
Lack of parks, schools next to parks, don't take advantage of natural resources (river)	4
Perceived lack of transparency in the budget, government too big, Lack of intergovernmental coordination, reactionary planning	5
Lack of neighborhood organizations	6
Lack of mental health services	6

## Opportunities

Summary	Rank
Coordinated government efforts thru zoning and recreation and parks in every neighborhood, smart growth	1
Vermillion River recreation, bike trails, Horse Farm, create living downtown	2
Increase I-10 lanes, improve thoroughfares, Loop, develop I-10/I-49 corridors, explore Public Transit	3
Explore "green" energy, alternative industries and natural gas / diversify industries, new technologies (LITE, Fiber), continued development of medical services	4
Growth in technology field/UL/Business/Chamber partnerships; public/private partnerships	5
Encourage/engage successful entrepreneurs to share talents with community; Educate citizens about community resources	6
Nurture arts/entertainment/film industry	7
New leadership K-12, SLCC, BESE, UL	7

## Threats

Summary	Rank
Housing sprawl, loss of population in center of town, lack of conservation efforts, no infill	1
Education system doesn't prepare adequate workforce	2
Dysfunction in intergovernmental relations and lack of political will; Lack of civic involvement; don't want to pay for innovation	3
Housing developed without facilities, services, amenities	4
ULL, LCG, continue to operate in silos	5
Economic vulnerability, over-reliance on oil/gas industry	6
Population growth without education and employment opportunities; growth that affects current culture	7
More inequity between north and south	8
Law enforcement not being able to keep up with growth; Crime	8
Disjointed taxing efforts - many businesses, people asking for money when some can join together = group benefit	8
Failure to increase economic diversity	8
Funding sources, ineffectiveness of State umbrella over Parish	8
Lack of emergency evacuation plan - need one included in this Plan	8