

Cost Benefits of Planning

The Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan is a living document that will change with our growing needs as a region. This is a snapshot of the impact the plan could have on South Louisiana, if monitored and consistently updated by a responsible entity.

Over the next 50 years, if we grow the way that the plan recommends instead of the way that we have grown for the past 25 years, we can significantly change South Louisiana. This snapshot tells us some of the differences:

GROWTH IMPACTS*

- Decrease new development in open land by **27%**
- Increase new development in existing communities by **27%**
- Decrease new development in floodplain by **63%**
- Decrease number of new homes in floodplain by **55%**
- Decrease number of new people in floodplain by **55%**
- Increase number of new households within ½ mile access to regional transit routes by **200,000**

TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS*

- Reduce daily minutes spent driving per person by **38 minutes**
- Reduce daily miles traveled in Congestion per person by **10 minutes**
- Reduce daily emissions by **200,000 tons**
- Reduce annual emissions by **58 million tons**
- Decrease spending on regional highways/roadways by **\$4.3 billion**

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPACTS*

- Reduce spending on infrastructure by **\$17.9 billion**
- Reduce spending on new roads by **\$4.3 billion**
- Increase investment on new transit by **\$4.7 billion**
- Reduce annual household energy costs by **\$993.00**

**Data is derived from the Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan, Appendix B: Modeling and Methodology, which can be found at www.louisianaspeaks.org. The development of the Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan relied on scenario planning. Scenarios illustrate what might be. They are not forecasts or predictions. Scenarios represent possible futures based historic patterns and emerging trends.*