

# One City, One Future



## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN for the City of Monroe

November 2008

peter j. smith & company, inc.



MONROE, LOUISIANA



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

JAMES E. MAYO  
MAYOR

November, 2008

318-329-2310  
POST OFFICE BOX 123  
MONROE, LOUISIANA 71210

*Dear Citizens of Monroe,*

*It is with great pride that I, along with the City Council and the Planning Commission, present the City of Monroe One City, One Future Comprehensive Plan.*

*This comprehensive plan is the first in 20 years for Monroe. In addition to serving as our land use plan for the next 20 years, the Comprehensive Plan highlights our resources and development opportunities. These include jobs, economic vitality and revitalization, educational opportunity, safety and security, preservation of Monroe's unique character and its rivers and bayous.*

*The comprehensive plan is a living and breathing document which represents the future of Monroe. Through its goals, objectives and policies, the plan will serve as our roadmap. The comprehensive plan recommends specific actions and projects; but, more importantly, it gives the community a standard measuring tool to help evaluate proposals and plans for development. This allows a project to be retrofitted to fit our plan. If a certain element of the plan becomes outdated, it can be updated to fit the changing vision of our city's future.*

*Having an updated comprehensive plan is critical to Monroe's future success. We are excited about this progressive step in our development and we hope our residents and taxpayers are as well.*

*I, on behalf of the City Council, wish to extend our thanks to peter j. smith & company, inc., the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, the Planning Commission, staff and the many citizens that participated in preparing this plan.*

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James E. Mayo". The signature is fluid and cursive.

James E. Mayo  
Mayor

*One City, One Future*  
*The Monroe Comprehensive Plan*  
*ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS*

*Hon. Jamie Mayo, Mayor*

*City Council*

Robert (Red) Stevens, Chairman  
Arthur Gilmore, Jr.                      Ben Katz  
Robert Johnson                          Jay Marx

*Planning Commission*

Tommy Chatham, Chairman  
John Smith, First Vice Chair              Hunt Neely, Second Vice Chair  
Ed French                                  Berna Dean Jones  
Ellen Hill                                      Mike Riley  
Marcus Hunter                              Tommy Usrey

*Steering Committee*

Robert Clark	Jay Marx	Paul Stephenson
Jim Cofer	Anthony Nelson	(Robert) Red Stevens
James Dupree	Robert Powell	Gene Tarver
Janet Durden	Charles Pritchard	Frank Wilcox
Sue Edmunds	Ryan Roark	
Gretchen Ezernack	John Ross	Richard Hood
Cedric Hemphill	John Schween	Joseph McGahan
Ellen Hill	Gladys Smith	Glenda Smith Starr
Brenda Johnson	Kathy Spurlock	Bobby Williams

*Staff*

Tom Atteberry  
Kim Golden  
Joanne C. Poret, AICP  
Rod Washington

*Consultant*

peter j. smith & company, inc.  
design based planning  
Buffalo, NY & Fort Erie, ON

*November 2008*

***One City, One Future!***  
***City of Monroe Comprehensive Plan***  
***Vision Statement***

*The City of Monroe is united by its bold and exciting prospects and engaged by the opportunity to build a globally competitive community.*

*We will continue to retain and attract social, intellectual and community resources to initiate, improve and complete projects which will advance Monroe, Northeast Louisiana and our region in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

***Goals***

*Goal #1: Monroe will foster an atmosphere of inclusivity and spirit of cooperation and collaboration among residents and government.*

*Goal #2: Advancement and achievement by the City's residents will be encouraged in every possible way.*

*Goal #3: The City of Monroe is unique and it will use the legacy of its forbears and its position as a regional hub to build a strong foundation for the future.*

*Goal #4: The City of Monroe will be safe and secure for residents and visitors.*

*Goal #5: Water is a defining feature of the City. The City's waterways will be restored as a source of pride, vitality and enjoyment for the City's residents and visitors.*