



Community Identified Issues

SWOT Analysis

A SWOT analysis stands for strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats and is used to help gain insight into the community through local knowledge. Survey participants identify their communities’ biggest strengths, such as community assets like a library or community center, along with their biggest weaknesses, which could be a lack of open space or high rates of internal crime. Next, survey participants identified opportunities that the communities could look to take advantage of as a part of the community plans process. This builds off of what was identified in the strengths and weaknesses portion. Lastly, participants identify external threats to the community. These are generally concerns that are outside of the control of community members, such as natural disasters or changes in economic conditions.

Strengths (Barstow Heights)

- Nice parks for children
- Close to desert for off road vehicles
- Don’t have people living close to you
- Small town, most people have known each other for years and have common interests
- The size and population
- The size and population 23,000 and isolated 30 miles from nearest city – Barstow has that small town feel but is big enough to matter, diverse mix of people and races, perfect for test marketing and surveys,
- the freeways
- Open areas

Strengths (Hinkley)

- Location. Hinkley is in a great area and contrary to what most believe there are great water resources and it’s a great place for rural living

Strengths (Lenwood)

- Small size of the community
- Families know each other
- Road work done on Lenwood Road
- Small businesses

- The proximity of the housing, there is enough space between homes for privacy
- Most families here are the original owners
- Smaller community area
- Streets are well maintained
- Not too much crime

Weaknesses (Barstow Heights)

- People not taking care of property
- County not enforcing violations
- Dilapidated structures not being torn down or removed
- No pride in ownership
- Public safety members not connected to the community
- Politicians do not live here n with the small amount of voters we have very little political clout
- The area payroll leaves town payday for the Victor Valley
- The local government foes not have peoples best interest at heart
- Big corporations come here set up shop and they take but don’t give back killed the local business owners
- Property owners don’t keep up their properties

Weaknesses (Hinkley)

- The water stigma created by people seeking monetary gain and the lack of community solidarity

Weaknesses (Lenwood)

- Lack of play spaces and community spaces for families
- Not enough amenities like a better park and community gym
- More bigger stores
- Maintenance. There are several areas overrun with tumble weeds, dry grass, trash, etc.
- Speeding in residential areas, people often go over 50 mph in a 25 mph zone
- It's dirty and rundown
- Not enough police presence
- People illegally crossing the street
- Yards not upkept or filled with trash
- Nowhere to walk without being chased by stray dogs
- No nice parks (2)

Opportunities (Barstow Heights)

- Possibility for upscale housing
- Being annexed into the City of Barstow
- Better roads and sidewalks in the future
- Numerous job opportunities
- 6 OUT OF 10 RESIDENTS OF BARSTOW ARE COUNTY ASSISTANCE THEIR NOT MAKING IT IN LIFE + BARSTOW IS THE POOREST CITY IN THE POOREST COUNTY IN ONE OF THE QUICKLY BECOMING POOREST STATES IN THE UNION, 6 OUT OF 10 HOLD OUT YOUR HANDS AND DO IT WITH YOUR FINGERS 6-10 10-6 6-10 10-6, I LOOKED AND COULD A CITY IN ALL OF CALIFORNIA WITH A POPULATION OF 20.000 OR MORE THAT

HAS 60% OF ITS RESIDENTS ON WELFARE, EVERY TIME I DO THE FINGERS 6-10 10-6 ITS LIKE A PUNCH IN THE GUT *HELP* PLEASE WE NEED HELP TODAY TOMORROW WILL BE TO LATE.

Opportunities (Hinkley)

- With the new freeway in place it's an opportunity for small business. It's also a great place for ranching.

Opportunities (Lenwood)

- Potential growth – jobs
- New industrial buildings in the industrial park and hopefully the Indian casino they want to build
- More businesses opening near the 58/15 freeway
- Community cleanups, maybe pay the homes to clean it up
- The shopping area of Lenwood is the best opportunity for Lenwood and the surrounding communities they should keep expanding

Threats (Barstow Heights)

- Increases in crime
- Mail theft
- Suspects observed looking over people's fences and knocking on doors to see if anyone is home
- County of San Bernardino using Barstow as a dumping ground for section 8
- Low income equals gangs n crime
- NOBODY CARES AND DOES NOT WANT TO KNOW ABOUT A CITY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT WHERE 60% OF ITS PEOPLE CAN'T MAKE IT IN LIFE, THE FEDS CASTE THE

POPULATION AND HERE IS WHERE THEIR
SENDING THEIR UNWANTED *HELP*

- Transients

Threats (Hinkley)

- Nursery Products waste facility 8 miles to the West. Contrary to the claims of NP we still are able to smell the sickening stench from the "composting" facility. I feel the possible expansion of this facility and the threat of others like it will be able to make this area uninhabitable.
- Also the lack of County road maintenance in the Hinkley area. Mountain View has the County owned Community Center and the Post Office on it yet the County refuses maintenance of this road yet at the same time they spend money grading roads that are no longer used.
- Inadequate or absence of law enforcement and fire protection.

Threats (Barstow Heights)

- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Lack of play areas for young children
- Crime – we need patrol especially at night and we need help keeping our homes safe

and nice looking be nice to have a home rehabilitation program like other cities

- We often hear about breakins in the community into homes or houses that are up on the market
- Transients, we often see people asking or coming up and hassling us for money, and become very violent when they are rejected
- People leaving for a more beautiful environment
- Homeless people and crime. Growing up in Lenwood was very nice, very low crime and homeless people in the area but the last couple of years people have been tagging the street signs, leaving their trash and old furniture out in the streets and more criminals have slowly come into the community. If the city of Barstow doesn't invest more money into this community it is going to have negative affects and people are going to move to another town.
- The shopping area in Lenwood provides lots of revenue from the tourist that stop and shop and it is ridiculous if some of that money isn't invested back in to the community that it benefits from.