



# Spokane Matters 2018

## Zombie Zap

Progress update – Safe and Health Committee

April 30, 2018

Committee Co-Chairs:

Melissa Owen and Charles Hansen

# Project Overview

**Project Title:** Zombie Zap.

**Issue Identified:** Challenges multiplied when squatters successfully gain utilities at homes that should be vacant.

**How this issue can be address in 2018:** Partner with Avista Utilities to develop and implement a protocol for turning on electric service to homes that were previously vacant or lacked service and where these homes are being occupied illegally.

**2018 Goal:** Protocol established and implemented

What we've found ...

Our Issue statement addresses a symptom of abandonment.

Our new goal is to work on solutions that prevent abandonment.

#2

Protocol for District breakout groups- do this for each project you select:  
Community Concerns - pick one and list it below

How can we address this concern this year? *unsafe + h* *Unsafe house leading to crime*

Project title and which Strategic Plan goal does this align with? *Partnership w/ Avista + city utility protocol (water, sewer, Power/gas)*

Team leader (organizes group work sessions, reports out at Mayor's Quarterly Performance meetings, point of contact- please list contact info. below)  
*Zombie Zap*

Who will serve on this team?  
*Charles Haven (whitman) safe + healthy urban experience*  
*497-8962*

Who should be invited to the team that isn't here today?  
*Dea MacDemit (Deputy Building) Melissa Owen mowen@pehancity.org*  
*625-6063*

What is our benchmark?  
*Process established + utilized*

*Matt Fullson Avista Utility Billing*  
*Neighbors*

**Ultimate Goal:** Develop a comprehensive abandonment prevention strategy.

## **Interim Strategies:**

1. Develop a City webpage and include information related to:
  - Foreclosure Resources & Contacts
    - WA Commerce
    - Dept. of Financial Institution
    - SNAP
  - Property Owner Responsibilities
  - Probate Resources & Contacts
  - Home donation & donation benefits
2. Develop a PSA that can run on City Cable 5



# Other Related Activities

- Abandonment tracking software options are being explored
- an internally utilized map with 8 factors of abandonment has been developed.
- New State Law goes into effect on June 7 providing the city with a new tool to combat Zombie Properties.

# Questions & Comments

