



Spokane Matters 2018

Zombie Zap

Progress update – Sustainable Communities
Committee

August 8, 2018

Committee Co-Chairs:

Melissa Owen and Charles Hansen

Project Review

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.

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* *625-6063* *mowen@pehancity.org*
m. murphy

What is our benchmark?
Process established + utilized

Matt Fullson
Avista
Utility Billing
Neighbors

#2

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

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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 went into effect on June 7 providing the city with a new tool to combat Zombie Properties.

Questions & Comments

