



Activating a vacant lot

Engage Your Community

Before you activate a vacant lot consider reaching out to the surrounding community. This is an effective way to learn about the community's needs and to encourage participation.

Evaluate Vacant Lot Options

Be aware of what you can build on your lot. Indiana has four seasons and all types of weather, be aware of flooding. The cost of your lot will depend on its location Is there alley access? What are property values and crime rates? Will you need a permit? Also, check for utilities before your purchase.

Funding

Activating a lot could be expensive so make sure you know exactly what you want before you start. Keep in mind when you are looking to start activating a lot you can get grants, donations, sponsorships, investors, and volunteers.



Maintenance

Community buy-in is very important in any successful project, work with neighbors to plan for long-term success with maintenance and security for the lot.



Zoning and Permits

It is important to verify the lot's existing zoning and permitted uses. If you have questions about permitted uses, or to discuss options for your idea, call the Department of Planning Services at (260) 449-7607.

Resources

Ideas for activating

- Basketball Court
- softball/baseball Field
- play Ground
- Ice Skating Rink
- Sand Volleyball Court
- Soccer Field

- Public Stage
- Sculpture Garden
- rain garden
- Vegetable garden
- Fruit Garden
- Decorative Garden

- Tree House
- Plant Nursery
- Gazebo
- Beekeeping
- Hang out spot
- Murals

Tips And Tricks

- Before activating have a set idea of what you want.
- Ask yourself what is around your lot
- Remember location does matter for what you plan to do.

Contact Information

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