

Mike Epps's Redevelopment Plan



Step-by-step outline of how Mike Epps redeveloped his old neighborhood, as reported in the Indianapolis Star article.



EARLY INVESTMENT (2003-PRESENT)

Mike Epps began by purchasing several properties on his childhood block as early as 2003, where his grandmother had raised her family in the 1960s. He acquired these properties, including his grandmother's house, which had been lost due to neighborhood decline.

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2

STRATEGIC HOLDING

After buying the properties, Epps held onto them, waiting for the right moment to begin redevelopment. In response to the challenges of 2020 and the onset of COVID-19, Mike and his wife Kyra decided to return to Indianapolis to put love back into the block and revitalize the community.



RESISTING GENTRIFICATION

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Mike Epps aimed to preserve the community's identity amidst gentrification, focusing on providing affordable housing and renovating properties to create homes, not just for profit.



RENOVATION WORK

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4

They renovated their home on the block, a former firehouse, and began makeovers of two other properties, including the adjacent house and the house of Mike Epps' grandmother, over a 12-week period. The project emphasized holding onto family legacy and the influence of Mike Epps' grandmother, Anna Walker.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND LEGACY

The project focused on bringing back the charm, community, and character valued by Epps during his upbringing. It aimed to provide opportunities for people to return to and invest in the community, enhancing the neighborhood's appeal and livability. In partnership with GANGGANG, a creative agency, they featured the work of local Black artists in the rehabbed properties.