# MAYOR HOGSETT'S VISION FOR BLACK INDIANAPOLIS

# **PUBLIC SAFETY AND VIOLENCE REDUCTION**

- Mayor Joe Hogsett's violence reduction strategy has provided significant investments in grassroots violence reduction, new crime-fighting technology, and funding boosts for hiring new officers.
- From the moment Mayor Hogsett took office, he prioritized creating a robust and diverse police force that reflects the diversity of Indianapolis neighborhoods.
- The City's research, in partnership with the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform, shows that most violent crimes start from personal conflicts, often driven by chronic disenfranchisement in employment, education, housing, and more. With an all-hands-on-deck approach to reducing violence in neighborhoods, we know that building connections is crucial to reaching the most at-risk individuals. This year, Mayor Hogsett committed to making the administration's Gun Violence Reduction Strategy and Peacemaker program a permanent part of the City-County operational budget to address the root causes of violence further.
- In addition to adopting a community policing model to Indianapolis neighborhoods, Mayor Hogsett's criminal justice reform aims to break the cycle of crime and violence by addressing its root causes. We are measuring success based on lives saved, not lives detained from putting new tools in the hands of our law enforcement officers to opening the Community Justice Center.
  - Reentry programming | Since the creation of OPHS, the Hogsett Administration has expanded its reentry efforts to an entire division with resource coordinators, program managers, and housing liaisons that work to reduce recidivism within the reentrant community with programming and intervention. In 2022, OPHS opened the release lobby at the Community Justice Campus, which is part of the Mayor's vision to provide concentrated, immediate intervention for those recently released through the Office of Public Health and Safety. As the first line of support for folks reentering society, the 24-hour operation at the CJC connects individuals with jobs, food access, substance abuse, mental health, driver's licenses, and housing.
    - City agencies have expanded partnerships with RecycleForce and Keys2Work, providing program participants with opportunities to work as Department of Business and Neighborhood Services and Department of Public Works employees.
    - The City used a portion of its most recent New Markets Tax Credit allocation to help finance a new, expanded RecycleForce HQ at Sherman Park
- Real progress has been made in accountability, transparency, and training. Mayor Hogsett has worked alongside IMPD to focus on community policing that builds community and department relationships. Efforts include:
- Civilian majorities on the General Orders Board and Use of Force Review Board
- New use of force policy, implicit bias and de-escalation training
- Department-wide deployment of body cameras





# **WHAT WILL WE DO?**

Recruit, retain officers that reflect the community following an 85% increase in first-year salary Continue investing directly in the root causes of crime Expand partnership with Keys2Work for re-entry efforts

Make the Peacemakers a permanent OPHS program

Open Excel Center on the southside in 2024 to support second chance and adult In 2024, the City-County budget supports the installation of the dashboard cameras

# **MENTAL HEALTH**

- We've taken great strides to address the need for mental health services in our city. In partnership with Faith in Indiana, Mayor Joe Hogsett launched the city's first-ever Clinicial-Led Community Response team with Black-led Stepping Stone Therapy Center to provide mental health support to those experiencing crises in the community while also reducing unnecessary entanglement in the criminal justice system. The CLCR operation is supported by minority mental health clinicians and community partners from Stepping Stone Therapy Center, Phoenix Nicholas Center, and Moving Forward. With response teams comprised of a therapist, peer support specialist, and program manager, the pilot will now expand from Downtown District to East District with 24/7 staffing in 2024.
- Mayor Hogsett also created the Assessment and Intervention Center to redirect individuals suffering from substance abuse or mental health issues from incarceration to treatment.
- Mayor Hogsett also used American Rescue Plan Act funding to partner with Mental Health America of Indianapolis on the Vitality Grant program, which has directed \$4 million to local organizations to expand mental health programming in the city.

### WHAT WILL WE DO?

- Expand Clinician-Led Community Response Team to East District
- Work with Sandra Eskenazi Mental Health Center to expand the AIC to 60 beds and ensure it continues to adapt to meet the needs of the community
- Continue working with Black Church coalition and medical providers to combat increased mortality rates with Black women and infants
- Distribute Opioid Settlement funding to organizations for treatment, prevention, recovery, harm reduction, youth and community education, and additional local efforts to reduce barriers to access services across Marion County.



# AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- From 2019 to 2021, Mayor Hogsett and Grounded Solutions worked to create the Anti-Displacement Agenda in partnership with housing practitioners, philanthropic partners, and housing advocates. From strengthening housing policies to creating and supportive housing programming, this has resulted in Mayor Joe Hogsett has embedded these priorities in the administration's strategy to address the housing crisis:
- Creating a deeper and longer term of affordability in projects supported by tax increment financing
- In 2024, Mayor Hogsett intends to smart-size the City's owner-occupied repair program to support homeowners in making much-needed repairs to their homes so that they can stay in place.
- We've been at work with Kheprw Institute and listening to the community to support the creation of Indianapolis' first-ever community land trust with the goal of developing permanent affordability to halt gentrification.
- At the beginning of 2023,, Mayor Hogsett announced Vacant to Vibrant, the city's latest program that will transform vacant city-owned property into affordable housing that will increase affordability. In July 2023, Mayor Hogsett announced the program will partner with a dozen developers, CDCs, and community organizations to create over fifty housing opportunity types, including ownership, rentals, and lease to purchase.
- The Hogsett Administration has leveraged \$1.8 million in American Rescue Plan funds and an \$8 million New Markets Tax Credit allocation to support the creation of homeownership opportunities at the Colonial Bakery site in partnership with INHP, Martindale Brightwood CDC, and the African American Quality of Life Initiative. This will be the largest single-site affordable homeownership opportunity in Indianapolis in decades.
- Keeping residents in their homes with policies like the Riverside Property Tax and Owner occupied repair support to community organizations
- In 2023, the Hogsett Administration achieved progress during the 2023 session of the Indiana General Assembly and gained tools to fight displacement and gentrification with the Housing TIF tool and the property tax program, which will pilot in Riverside in 2024.



# **HOMELESSNESS**

- In 2016, Mayor Hogsett moved Indianapolis to a housing-first strategy after taking office. Since then, Indianapolis' funding award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has increased by 127 percent. In addition, we've worked with community partners and developers to increase the number of permanent supportive housing units by 89 percent.
- We know that homelessness disproportionately impacts Black neighbors. That's why Mayor Hogsett partnered with the Indianapolis Continuum of Care and Blueprint Council to create a goal to lower Black homelessness by 35 percent over the next 18 months.
- That's why we are progressing work on the Housing Hub at a time when we're increasing support for more permanent supportive housing across the city. And to so many that might be a new term and that's because Indianapolis only began to develop them after Mayor Hogsett evolved Indianapolis' homeless strategy to Housing First
- Permanent supportive housing is a proven solution to ending homelessness for the most vulnerable chronically homeless people and pairs low-barrier housing with supportive services. Between now and next spring an estimated 150 units of supportive housing will open up that have benefitted from direct city support—beginning with Hanna Commons later this month.

# WHAT WILL WE DO?

- Enter into an agreement with HUD to improve Indianapolis Housing Agency to ensure housing stability for some of Indianapolis' most vulnerable residents
- Launch a new owner-occupied repair program in 2024
- Operationalize the new Housing TIF tool we successfully advocated for in the 2023 Indiana
   General Assembly as a way to preserve and create affordability as well as combat displacement and gentrification
- Continue collaboration with Kheprw Institute to support creation of first Indianapolis Community Land Trust
- Work with Indianapolis Blueprint Council and Continuum of Care to lower Black homelessness by 35% over the next 18 months
- Scale up the pilot of the master leasing program to 200 units, as called for by the state lowbarrier shelter task force
- Leverage vacant and underutilized city-owned properties to spur affordable housing development
- Create affordable homeownership and rental opportunities along transit-corridors
- Develop additional local tools to expand affordable housing creation

# **BUILDING RESILIENT NEIGHBORHOODS** THROUGH ECONOMIC + COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### INDY PARKS INVESTMENTS

With nearly \$200 million in funding from Mayor Joe's Circle City Forward program and the Lilly Endowment for much-needed park updates and improvements, Mayor Joe's leadership will deliver on reshaping parks in ways that impact communities, programs, and activities throughout Indianapolis neighborhoods.

A new \$20 million family center for Frederick Douglass Park through Circle City Forward, and additional updates at Krannert Park Family Center, Grassy Creek Regional Park, and Riverside Park \$5 million in investment for the Kennedy-King Memorial Park at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park. \$100 million in investment for trails and greenways across neighborhoods

#### **EAST 38TH STREET CORRIDOR**

As part of the Lift Indy program, the Hogsett Administration is leveraging local and federal funding to invest in affordable housing development and quality-of-life improvements in partnership with United Northeast Community Development Corporation and Cook Medical. The City supported Michael McFarland, Marckus Williams, and Cook Medical with a tax abatement to support the development of the Indy Fresh Market, eliminating a long-time food desert in the Sankofa Zone.

#### PARTNERING WITH FLANNER HOUSE

Mayor Hogsett's partnership with Flanner House, Indianapolis' oldest social services organization, serves as a model for holistic community development. Throughout the Mayor's tenure, we've supported the development for residents to access food, mental health, resources, and literacy with MorningStar, Ujamaa Bookstore, and Cleo's Bodega. The City also partnered with FH on the BBBCII an opportunity to secure \$100 million from the Economic Development Administration. Although we were not successful in a Phase II award, we remain committed to advancing the efforts of the Coalition.

#### **FAR EASTSIDE**

In term three, Mayor Hogsett is committed to carrying out work on Indianapolis' Far Eastside in partnership with neighborhood organizations, leaders, and residents. In 2019, Mayor Joe Hogsett successfully demolished the crime-ridden Oaktree Apartments. Since then, the administration has worked side-by-side with the community on a redevelopment plan that mirrors the community's wants and needs. In 2022, Mayor Hogsett added the Far Eastside as a designated Lift Indy neighborhood to fund wrap-around services, placemaking, and affordable housing in partnership with Community Alliance for the Far Eastside, Mt. Paran and HOPE CDC, Intend Indiana, and IndyGo. In 2021, the City partnered with VOLUMOD, an economic development engine responsible for creating affordable housing at a speed 30 to 50% more than average, and attached P30, which has become an asset for the community. The Mayor is also investing millions of dollars to stabilize the Towne and Terrace development at 42nd and Post, ensuring residents are cared for at the highest level.

# BUILDING RESILIENT NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH ECONOMIC + COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### **CENTRAL STATE CAMPUS**

In 2022, the Hogsett Administration called for development opportunities on the Central State Campus, and this summer, we announced the selection of the NXG Youth MotorSports HQ, a \$20 million facility allowing them to expand programming from 250 to 700 majority Black youth. In addition, the administration is working with Lobyn Hamilton and Danicia Malone to redevelop Old Fire Station #18 into a community hub for arts and culture.

#### **CITY-WIDE FOOD ACCESS**

In 2018, Mayor Joe Hogsett created the City's first-ever Division of Community Nutrition and Food Policy. Since then, the administration has used an array of tools to address the disparity from grassroots to supporting the creation of brick and mortar grocery stores.

Throughout the months of March and June, OPHS executed 24 outreaches that distributed 220,582 lbs of food, including 55,903 lbs. of fresh produce, serving 9,730 residents in 2,743 households. 89% of the households receiving free nutritious food from OPHS outreach events have been from zip codes within the social vulnerability index that were disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In partnership with LYFT, the Hogsett Administration provides Indianapolis residents with \$1 rides to and from SNAP approved grocery stores each month with the code FEEDINDY in the LYFT. Ridership with this program continues to increase; in 2020, the partnership provided 2,415 rides to 144 unique riders. In 2022, the program provided 20,619 rides to 1,355 riders.

DCNFP invested \$7,524 in subsidies for produce sourced from local, minority farmers, ensuring that high quality produce was available at neighborhood stores. In addition to \$15,582 in grant funds awarded to those same farmers including sponsoring 100 hours of farm labor during the 2022 produce growing season. During its 2022 Seed to Store program season, DCNFP collaborated with 8 local farmers, a 30% increase over 2021.

#### **DOWNTOWN RESILIENCY STRATEGY**

While we're focused on convention and tourism development, we are continuing to support homegrown talent with events like BUTTER. In 2021 when negotiating the Stutz redevelopment, we negotiated three years of free space for GANGGANG to host the nationally renowned fine art fair.

# BUILDING RESILIENT NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH ECONOMIC

# + COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Currently, our downtown is projected to see \$9 billion in economic development, with monumental projects like the Elanco HQ expansion, City Market Campus redevelopment, the Circle Centre Mall redevelopment, and so much more. In 2021, Mayor Hogsett launched the downtown resiliency strategy with a focus on investments in public spaces, housing density, vibrant mixed-use economic development, and connected infrastructure to support the future of downtown Indianapolis following the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2022, the Hogsett Administration embarked on the South Downtown Connectivity Vision Plan to create the blueprint for the southern corridor of downtown Indianapolis. With this, the city issued a call for residents to give their input on what they want to see downtown. In the summer of 2023, Mayor Hogsett announced the first projects of the plan: SPARK on the Circle and the reconstruction of Georgia Street. To learn more about the plan, visit www.visionsouthdowntownindy.com.

#### INDIANAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT PROGRAM

In 2022 Mayor Hogsett dedicated \$500,000 towards neighborhood beautification, community spaces, and art as a means to boost quality of life. The program, which focuses on neighborhood spaces, art, and beautification, is intended to enhance engagement, collective action, and development for neighborhoods and neighborhood-based organizations. The effort is made possible through partnership between the City of Indianapolis and the Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center, with funding from federal American Rescue Plan Act dollars passed by the City-County Council. In the past 3 rounds of the Neighborhood Grant Program, over \$319,000 have been awarded to neighborhoods in qualified census tracts or SAVI high-impact ZIP codes 75% of this amount has been awarded to communities of color.

- In 2024, Indianapolis will host the 2024 NBA All Star Game. As a host city, we're supporting business diversity efforts as well arts and culture development in partnership with the Arts Council of Indianapolis.
- Launch an Anti-Poverty Agenda
- Expand food access efforts and programming
- Carry forth downtown development that incorporates Black-owned businesses in development, retail, and employment
- Continue with additional rounds of the Indianapolis Neighborhood Grant program designed to support the engagement, collective action, and increased development of all neighborhoods and neighborhood-based organizations.
- See forth the historic investment in park improvements and programming
- Work with Far Eastside partners to redevelop Oaktree site + support for Towne & Terrace residents

# SUPPORTING BLACK BUSINESS

Mayor Hogsett has returned to the five-year cycle for a disparity study on City purchasing and contracting, which will next take place in 2024.

As part of a new tool in the administration's economic development toolbox, DMD launched the first-ever St'Art Up 317 small business incubator in partnership with We Don't Run From Adversity at the Stutz. As new development surges in the downtown pipeline, we'll continue to leverage this as an opportunity to bring more minority-owned businesses to downtown. In partnership with Visit Indy, Mayor Hogsett launched Visiting All Neighborhoods, which grants access to Visit Indy resources to diverse small businesses around Indianapolis neighborhoods. Mayor Hogsett supported City funding for the Equity 1821 CDFI and the Nile Capital Fund to support Black startups and entrepreneurs. The Nile Fund has helped fund projects like Burgeezy, which recently moved into a downtown location, and the exhale app, a mental health app for women.

During 2020, the Hogsett Administration, in partnership with the Indy Chamber, supported the Indy Chamber with \$23 million in relief funds, which awarded 2,000 grants and loans to Indianapolis businesses. 34% of the businesses supported by the program in 2020 were minority-owned.

In partnership with LISC Indianapolis, the Department of Metropolitan Development utilized federal funding in 2021 to support the Microenterprise Program. This year, the Hogsett Administration recommitted support for the program. Over the next 10 months, the program is expected to serve 120 businesses with technical assistance and business training in partnership with Martindale Brightwood Community Development Corporation, Indy Black Chamber of Commerce, Southeast Neighborhood Development (SEND) and Crooked Creek Community Development Corporation.

# WHAT WILL WE DO?

- Returning to five-year cycle for disparity study on City purchasing and contracting
- Microenterprise Program in partnership with LISC Indianapolis
- Provide Black capital funds like Equity 1821, Nile Fund
- In partnership with the Indy Chamber, launch the Business Ownership Initiative Gap Program to spur the creation of capital for the Office of Minority and Women Business Development certified XBE's to support during bid opportunities.
- Launch additional St'Artup317 incubator space at the Stutz

After working the last 8 years to address decades of deferred maintenance on our city's roads, Mayor Joe is now working to combat the inequities of road funding for Indianapolis. In 2022, Mayor Joe Hogsett announced a 5-year, \$1 billion plan for roads, bridges, stormwater infrastructure, and sidewalks (alleys?). Now, his vision is to continue working with state leadership to fix Indiana's road funding formula without raising taxes on Marion County residents.

In 2023, Mayor Hogsett called for the Indianapolis Neighborhood Infrastructure Partnership to become Community Powered Infrastructure and announced the addition of 50-50 matching grants for traffic calming initiatives. Often, these smaller-scale investments can lead to improvements in safety for neighborhoods – but not every neighborhood has the resources to fundraise for these projects. Providing matching grants for these efforts will help more communities implement them, and a partnership with a community-based organization will see outreach and education encouraging equitable participation in the program. The 2024 budget includes \$2 million for this program.

American infrastructure practices over the last several decades have paved the way for generational inequities that may not always be apparent, even though they are always visible. Communities that once had a strong sense of place, had pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit connections to jobs, education, food, and opportunity, were divided or cemented over to make way for interstate highway networks and wider roads for cars. It is well documented that minorities have shouldered a disproportionate share of the burden from 20th Century American infrastructure design.

Indianapolis infrastructure dollars are now being intentionally directed toward repairing the harm done through this car-centric approach, prioritizing improvements that benefit safety and connectivity for all road users: pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers. One example of this is the \$2 million Reconnecting Communities grant the City received from the US DOT to study the possibility of capping Virginia Ave bridge on the southeast side of downtown.

Another example of these efforts can be found in our successful \$25 million application to the US DOT's RAISE grant program. This funding will support the conversion of 8 segments of major one-way thoroughfares in downtown to two-way directional traffic. For neighborhoods like Meridian Highland, this means the opportunity to be reshaped from a 'pass-through' to an area with better quality of life and a strong sense of place.

Mayor Hogsett's 5-year, \$1.2 billion capital plan includes \$100 million worth of new and upgraded trails, amounting to more than 50 miles of protected, multi-modal travel within Indianapolis.

IndyGo's Blue Line project will benefit the community by expanding public transit efficiency and accessibility as well as delivering infrastructure upgrades and enhanced multi-modal connectivity along the busy Washington Street corridor. DPW is actively partnering with IndyGo and committed to the project.

- Execute \$1.2 billion infrastructure plan
- Move forward Reconnecting Communities work
- Collaborate with neighborhoods on Community Powered Infrastructure program with matching grants
- Promote pedestrian safety efforts
- Advocate for equitable road funding formula at Indiana General Assembly



In 2019, using the city's economic development toolbox, Mayor Hogsett supported the restoration of the historic Madam Walker Legacy Center with a New Markets Tax Credits investment of \$10 million.

In 2023, Mayor Hogsett announced the city's goal to work with Indiana Avenue neighbors, advocates, and stakeholders and embark on the Indiana Avenue Strategic Plan to create a community-led blueprint for development along the historic Indiana Avenue Cultural District.

Through the master planning process of the Riverside Regional Park, Indy Parks and Riverside neighbors envisioned the Riverside PromenThe Riverside Promenade is a roughly 1.5-mile multiuse trail.

In 2024, the Hogsett Administration will officially begin public engagement for the Cultural Equity Plan, the first-ever planning process that will focus on integrating history, arts, and culture into land use decisions and economic development.

# WHAT WILL WE DO?

- Embark on the Indiana Avenue Certified Strategic Plan
- Begin public engagement on the Cultural Equity Plan
- Continue working with the Norwood neighborhood to honor history
- Flanner House Homes

### **CENTERING EQUITY IN GOVERNANCE**

This August, Mayor Joe Hogsett introduced the City of Indianapolis' first Office of Equity, Belonging, and Inclusion to the Indianapolis City-County Council. As the office gets established, the Hogsett Administration will continue expanding operations, staffing, and programming.

Over the last seven years, Mayor Hogsett has continued to build a bench of leaders and staff that represents the Black community and Indy's diverse neighborhoods. Black employees comprise 24 percent of the Indianapolis City-County enterprise's staffing. The Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate team represents four nations and over seven spoken languages. The team reflects our neighborhoods, being of multiple genders, sexual orientations, ethnic cultures, races, and backgrounds. 90% of our MNA team identify as People of Color.

- Build out the city's first Office of Equity, Belonging, and Inclusion
- Grow the city's percentage of Black staff and executive leadership
- Grow percentage of Black staff on boards and commissions board participation
- Carry forth success of Mayor's Internship Program

# I EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH

We have to empower our teens and give them something to do in the summer months. That's why at the beginning of his tenure, Mayor Hogsett launched Project Indy. By creating an opportunity hub of employers, Project Indy has connected 15,000 teens with jobs since the creation in 2016.

To close the economic gap and accelerate economic mobility in Marion County, Mayor Hogsett launched Indy Achieves, an education program that has provided millions of dollars in scholarships and grants to expand opportunities for low-income residents to attend Ivy Tech or IUPUI. Since it began in 2018, the program has helped over 4,000 students continue their education.

With the goal of addressing the root causes of crime, Mayor Hogsett created the Elevation Grant in partnership with the Indianapolis Foundation, with the goal of supporting grassroots programming and organizations that focus on youth and those most at-risk perpetrating or being victims of gun violence.

Mayor Hogsett has supported the Modern Apprenticeship Program with EmployIndy. Now in its third cohort, Modern Apprenticeship is a two-to three-year program that provides high school students with jobs at organizations like AES Indiana, 100 Black Men, Roche, Central Indiana Corporate Partnership, and the Indianapolis Airport Authority. Participants of modern apprentices get paid while also earning college credit.

Mayor Hogsett has also expanded second-chance opportunities with support for the Excel Center, in partnership with Goodwill of Central Indiana, which will open next year on the southeast side of Indianapolis.

- Connect Indy teens with job opportunities through Project Indy
- Summer in the City opportunities through OPHS
- Continue offering high quality education through Mayor-sponsored charter schools
- Help residents pursue higher-ed through Indy Achieves