

DEVELOPMENT

A neighborhood grocery store could be coming to the South Main Arts District this year

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Cash Saver CEO Rick James and Memphis contractor Tom Archer are partnering to bring a grocery store to the South Main Arts District.

Vera Stanfield of Archer Custom Builders said they were working with James' company Castle Retail to open a neighborhood-style grocery store by the end of the year. The store, South Point Grocery, will be at 136 Webster Ave.

Archer bought the historic building, once home to wholesaler Liberty Cash Grocers, in 2016.

"He has been, since then restoring it little by little with an eye toward getting a tenant in here, who would turn the first floor into a grocery store," Stanfield said.

Archer visited High Point Grocery shortly after James purchased and reopened the store in the High Point Terrace neighborhood. Stanfield said it matched his vision of a neighborhood grocery store for South Main.

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And with all the recent residential development in the neighborhood, Stanfield said it was the right time to bring in a grocery option.

"When you're standing at the building and looking around, there's a ton of residential rooftops," she said. "You look around the building and do a little circle and all you see is residences."

The 23,395 square foot building sits at the corner of Webster and Second Street. The half-acre site also has 19 parking spaces.

Work on the site is ongoing and renderings online on a website for the property show outdoor seating on the property.

"Residents in this area have been clamoring for a grocery store," Stanfield added.

An exact timeline for buildout is difficult to pinpoint due to a dearth of construction materials, Stanfield said. But the team hopes to have the store open sometime in late 2021.

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