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## ITGA Addresses Growing Housing Challenges

Free Webinar Focused on Colleges and Host Communities on June 14

Nationwide, cities and towns are struggling to solve the issue of stable and affordable housing. College communities, in particular, bring a unique set of challenges for providing suitable housing for employees and students, as evidenced by the frequent requests for guidance to the [International Town and Gown Association \(ITGA\)](#), the only non-profit focused on both campus and community relations.

In response, ITGA is offering *Leveraging Town & Gown Partnerships for Housing Solutions*, a **free webinar series** with information centered on housing concerns and their impact on residency policies, and town and gown partnerships.

The annual influx of student renters, young professionals and professionals relocating for job opportunities add to the changing landscape of available housing. Many areas are facing short housing supply, increased demand and rising costs. For many students, the intersection of tuition affordability and housing availability becomes the main driver in choosing a college.

“Housing is a vital component for recruitment and retention of students and employees in college communities, and their presence is vital to the local economy, particularly those in adjacent neighborhoods,” said Beth Bagwell, [ITGA](#) Executive Director. “Although it may feel like a local problem, it is very much a national one.”

The first webinar in the *Leveraging Town & Gown Partnerships for Housing Solutions* series is titled “[Housing Uncertainty in College Communities](#).” The session features panelists from three town-gown communities sharing housing-related obstacles and potential strategies for addressing space inventory such as zoning laws, occupancy restrictions and more.

### **The University of Chapel Hill & Town of Chapel Hill:**

- Britany Waddell, AICP, Director of Planning and Sarah Vinas, Director of Affordable Housing and Community Connections, Town of Chapel Hill
- Aaron Bachenheimer, Ed.D., Executive Director of Off-Campus Student Life and Community Partnerships – UNC-Chapel Hill

**The University of Colorado and the City of Boulder:**

- Karl Guiler, AICP, Senior Policy Advisor – City of Boulder
- Lori Call, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Local Government and Community Relations and Jeff Morris, Director of Off-Campus Housing and Neighborhood Relations, University of Colorado

**Texas A&M and the City of College Station:**

- Debbie Eller, Director of Community Services and Michael Ostrowski, Director of Planning & Development Services, City of College Station
- Dr. Stefanie Baker, Director of Student Life, Texas A&M

**Moderator: Niki Jones**, Assistant Manager at the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County, Athens, Georgia

All are invited to join the free webinar, "[Housing Uncertainty in College Communities](#)," on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 from noon-1:15pm (EDT) to learn ways these colleges and their host communities are working together to address local housing challenges.

College administrators, elected officials, civic and community organizations, neighbors, parents and students are encouraged to attend.

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ABOUT ITGA

The [International Town and Gown Association \(ITGA\)](#) serves as the only global non-profit organization focused on the dynamic between colleges and their host communities. Founded in 2008 and based in Clemson, South Carolina, the ITGA offers members resources, education, networking and solutions to the challenges, emerging issues and unique opportunities found in town and gown relationships. Our members are a diverse group of higher education administrators, elected officials, community groups and campus neighbors who collaborate on issues such as economic development, sustainability, housing, diversity and inclusion, quality of life and civic engagement.

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