



# HOUSING MATTERS

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## Meet the *There's No Place Like Home* Expert Panelists

Next week, on Thursday, February 22nd, *Housing Savannah* and the Chatham County Housing Coalition will host the first "*There's No Place Like Home: Attainable Housing Stakeholder Summit.*"

The summit, or convening event, is the first step to shifting from “analysis” and “identifying” the issues to **addressing them**. Solving them. Evolving our processes and our practices to reflect our community as it is today and how it will be in the future.

We're looking forward to an informative and interesting panel discussion focused on "*Working Collaboratively to Create a Pro-Housing Community*" with area experts.



**Bert Brantley, President  
& CEO of Savannah Area  
Chamber of Commerce**



**Kenneth Clark, Deputy  
Director, Housing Authority**



**Michael Kaigler, County  
Manager, Chatham County  
Government**



**Joseph A. Melder, City  
Manager, City of Savannah**



**Christopher Nunn,  
Commissioner, Department  
of Community Affairs**

## **The Keynote Address**



Edward Erfurt is the **Director of Community Action** at [Strong Towns](#). He is a trained architect and passionate urban designer with over 20 years of public- and private-sector experience focused on the management, design, and successful implementation of development and placemaking projects that enrich the tapestry of place.

### **So, why did we invite Strong Towns?**

*Because they believe in the power of collaboration and the importance of community, just like we do.*

Strong Towns supports thousands of people across the United States and Canada who are advocating for a radically new way of thinking about the way we build our world.

The [Strong Towns Academy](#) offers in-depth courses, as well as short-form workshops, for those who want to take action in their community.

The [Strong Towns Action Lab](#) houses how-to guides, case studies, and more downloadable resources to help you build a strong town.

Strong Towns staff give [engaging presentations and lead transformative workshops](#) for audiences across the country, and virtually.

Strong Towns advocates and members who live in the same city gather in [Local Conversation Groups](#) to discuss how Strong Towns principles can make their places more resilient.

These [extended engagements](#) use a multi-pronged approach to mobilize specific communities for change and coach key local leaders through critical action steps.

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***Building new housing is complicated and costly.  
But for many, the way that it's built is a mystery.***

By the time a housing development is under construction years of work has already taken place behind the scenes. Years of designing and engineering, securing city approvals, and committing millions of dollars are needed to make that construction and eventual new homes a reality.

So, what are those steps? What are the costs? And how are key development decisions made?

The developer's journey to build and finance new housing is long and complicated. Throughout this process, a developer must take into account several market and regulatory factors that impact whether or not they can successfully propose and build residential projects. And while this “math” underlying housing development decisions is critical, very few resources exist to explain that math to those outside the real estate industry.

Demystifying the math that underpins whether a project “pencils” is an important step toward forming a shared understanding of what it will take to build an adequate supply of housing.

Try your hand at navigating the challenges of developing new housing by building your own project through this self-guided activity! Use this [interactive tool](#) from the [Turner Center for Housing Innovation at UC Berkeley](#), which helps explain why it's so difficult to build affordable housing units.

TRY THE TOOL YOURSELF HERE

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## Won't You Invest to Build a Stronger, Healthier Community?

**Your support is critical. Please contribute today.**

Each of us plays a role in addressing this dire situation and you can be part of the solution by contributing to the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund (SAHF). The Fund's programs assist low- to moderate-income families with home repairs and down payment assistance, as well as helping to build quality affordable housing in our community.

**Together we can make progress. Please invest in your community. Together, we can ensure that everyone in our community has a safe, stable, healthy home that they can afford.**

YES, I'LL HELP!

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*We grow community resources to create and preserve housing that is affordable for everyone.*



**Our Contact Information**

\*{{Organization Name}}\*

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