

# Town & Country

## REAL ESTATE

### Damn This Traffic Jam

Album: JT, 1977

“Damn this traffic jam, how I hate to be late, hurts my motor to go so slow, time I get home my supper’ll be cold”. James Taylor said it best and 27 brings it to life!

Every year I hear people say “this year the traffic’s worse than ever” — and usually it’s about the same level of congestion, but this year IS the worst.

#### WHY?

My theory, there are simply far more cars on our over burdened roads — primarily due to the economy. Yes, I blame the economy on our current traffic conditions.

#### WHY?

This year, more than I have ever seen in my overs three decades in East End real estate, I see people sharing homes, renting homes, renting beds! It seems everyone wants to get out of the city in the summertime, but most don’t want to pay the price. At a cocktail party by the beach recently, I was told of a very wealthy couple who were going to Europe for a few weeks and chose to rent their home out “to make a quick hundred thousand”. Then there was the hedge fund owner who waited until the last minute to get a great deal for July and August, then sublet a few weeks out to “make some money back”. And lastly, the big bank executive who rented a “shared room for 5 weekends”. This was all at one cocktail party.

#### REALLY PEOPLE???

So this perfect storm of over usage results in homes that are over packed and over booked all with too many people with too many cars on our roads.

#### THEORY:

This won’t change until the economy changes. Eventually people will begin to feel more secure in their financial world, look at their situation, and say “I’m done with this. I’m getting my own place, and if I choose to take a trip I don’t want strangers in my house.” Then, and only then will the traffic ease up.

#### PARTING SHOT

Oh — one last observation — road work in July and August on major roads must be postponed — Period!

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