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"Lanes Must Change"

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Lanes Must Change

To The Commercial Appeal:

Driving south on the I-255 expressway during rush hour has to be the most ridiculous and agonizing experience possible in a city of this size. As a Memphian, it's embarrassing to drive down this stretch of interstate and at the same time compare that situation to road experiences in cities of comparable size such as Denver, Atlanta or Miami.

Both highway design and delay in additional construction are insults to the architect and the Tennessee Transportation Department, especially in reference to the defect at Brooks and I-255. The damage there is already done, but something can be done to alleviate it. City and state officials sit on their hands while thousands of drivers become hot-headed with the start-stop craziness, and confused and irritated while fighting to move over to their exit at 5 mph. And before cars can enter onto the highway, people already there are practically smashing the former's taillights in trying to get off.

This is a big city expressway?

City and state officials need to examine this problem and initiate proposals to add at least one lane each way on that stretch of I-255, and remedy the entrance-exit confusion by making separated lanes for that traffic movement.

Understandably, a project of this caliber would demand several million dollars; but a necessity is a must. And dilly-dallying won't help.

BERT STEINER

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