

Property as a burden

It doesn't always work, but if you want to know what's going to happen in your own backyard, watch what's happening across the big pond. Wall Street gave us the financial crisis, Starbucks gave us the \$4 cup of coffee, and the American mass media gave us the swine-flu hysteria. Now, almost 25% of Americans are underwater with their mortgages, because property prices are plummeting, yet U.S. cities and counties in many cases are raising property taxes to compensate for falling revenue in other areas. Often, the new tax value is far greater than the fair market value of the property, but the deck is stacked against anyone who tries to fight the tax assessor. In the first phase of the real-estate crisis, people walked away from their homes because they were underwater with their mortgage. In the second phase, people are increasingly holding fire sales or walking away from their property because it no longer makes sense to pay the tax. Let's hope this is one fad that misses the Czech Republic.



'REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT
- IS IT WORTH IT TODAY?'

The IBF, in conjunction with the CIJ, will host a seminar to discuss the development of the real estate market. The seminar will consist of two distinct panels featuring over ten of the CEE's top industry experts.

Tuesday, 19th May, 2009
08:30-12:30 (with coffee break)
Hotel Jalta

IBF Members: Kc 600
Non-Members: Kc 800

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