

Street Addresses Finally Available!

■ You have to buy yours, and the post office says they're not going to use them, but they'll look cool hanging on your house

BY ALBA

We all know how frustrating it is to find addresses in Mexico. In most places there are no house numbers. One describes where the target location is by some convoluted description that is all

contingent on you knowing how many blocks up the potato chip factory used to be or where some other obscure landmark is now. Addresses run to several sentences,

sometimes a paragraph. How would you like to be a pizza delivery guy in this town? Or an ambulance driver or a fireman?

Well, welcome to the 21st century, Mexico, you are getting house numbers whether you use them or not. And you will pay for those num-



bers that you may never use. We're sure the pizza delivery guy will be happy. And who knows? You may even start getting your DHL packages now.

from the main highway, on the right hand side, on the parallel secondary road, just after Primero de Mayo, past Dollar Car Rental as you are going towards the airport. It is a yellow four story building on the corner of Avenida 5 de Mayo, across from Boulevard Liquors. The urban planning office is located on the third floor in the Pedrin building. Everyone knows it as Edificio Pedrin. (Padreen building). And yes, you do need to know this, because you are going to march down there and ask for your house number. Ed McMahon's

questions, but what is most important is your paid tax receipt. This receipt (in Spanish called the Impuesto Predial) includes your clave cadastral number, which is the key to receiving your new official address. You will get a letter explaining what you're paying for, and at this point you pony up 187 pesos, about \$14.

What good is it? Is it worth the time and money? Well, to make any property sales or title changes, or any official business, you will be required to have the new official number. However they are not connected to any other branch of the government, such as the post office or electricity (CFE) people. And, in order to get this done, you will have to go in person make this change.

Post office officials say that having the house number will be helpful, but to assure that you receive your mail, you should go to your post office and tell them that you will be starting to use your new address. They will then explain to you the proper way to write it, which will still include street corner references. There is no cost for updating your address at the post office.

The post office in San Jose is very small and post office manager, Abel David Green Moreno, stated it operates with only eight letter carriers for all of San Jose. Often

Prize Patrol might be looking for you.

To obtain your number, you must bring in your receipt proving you paid this year's taxes, along with personal identification. If there are any questions, it might be helpful

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Spiffy new and official street numbers have been available for San Jose and Cabo San Lucas proper, (does not include outlying areas to date,) since 2003-2004, according to Victor Manual Marron. Marron works for the Director of General Ecology, in the Catastro (cartography section) building in San Jose. Those numbers were generated to implement some sense of order to the urban planning in Los Cabos, and to assist in all areas of public service, as in police and fire.

These new official numbers are managed by the director general of urban development and ecology and is run out of the Pedrin building in San Jose. The Pedrin building also houses other government offices such as building permits. It is visible

to have your Escritura (title) to avoid having to make another trip, in case of any

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these letter carriers know the addressee and that is a huge help in getting your mail delivered. But the official word at the post office is they don't know who is stealing all the letters, nor where the breakdowns occurs and are not part of it, so there.

The Pedrin Building is open from 8-3, with the last transaction to be processed at 2:30. Phone 142-1166, extension 105. No appointments are necessary. ✎

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