

Postmaster
Weslaco Post Office



January 24, 2017

Planning Commission or
Official(s) responsible for new development
255 S Kansas Ave
Weslaco, TX 78596-6158

Greetings:

The Postal Operations Manual has recently been revised to give the Postal Service the authority to determine the delivery mode for any new development (business or residential). Likewise, the responsibility for purchase and installation of any delivery equipment is the responsibility of the developer. The pertinent citations from the manual is given below

631.24 Newly Established or Extended Delivery Points

631.241 General

Newly established or extended business or residential customers must request and receive approval of the delivery location and mode of delivery from the local Postmaster or District designees. These deliveries will not receive mail delivery service until the mail receptacles are installed and the units and locations are approved by local postal management. Options and requirements for modes of delivery are directed by the Postal Service.

632 Mail Receptacles

632.1 Customer Obligation

632.11 Responsibilities

Appropriate mail receptacles must be provided for the receipt of mail. The type of mail receptacle depends on the mode of delivery in place. Purchase, installation, and maintenance of mail receptacles are the responsibility of the customer.

The most efficient mode of delivery for most developments is Cluster Box Unit (CBU) or other centralized delivery. That is the mode that will be required for all new development unless written authorization from the USPS District Growth Coordinator is obtained in advance.

As a result of these revisions, we are requesting that you advise all residential and business developers that approach your office regarding new development of these requirements. Additionally, we request that you advise them to contact their local Postmaster prior to beginning construction in order to establish locations for CBUs or centralized delivery equipment.

Your cooperation in these proactive efforts regarding mail delivery to new developments will eliminate confusion and streamline the establishment of mail delivery to our customers and your residents / constituents.

Should you have any questions regarding mail delivery issues to new development, please do not hesitate to contact me at (956)968-7412.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph Espericueta".

Joseph Espericueta

Postmaster

109 N BORDER
WESLACO TX 78596-9998
956-968-7412
FAX: 956-969-2993



RE: New Mode of Mail Delivery for Developers/Contractors

Dear Contractor/Developer

The United States Postal Service is proud to continue its vital role in today's changing mail environment. That role includes responsibility for establishing the method or mode of delivery, the type of mailbox, and location of the mailbox for each street delivery address. Centralized delivery, through the use of Cluster Box Units (CBUs), is our preferred delivery method and box type. These CBU boxes have the advantage of being "package friendly," in that they are designed to accommodate the majority of packages delivered through the U.S. mail.

Online ordering of merchandise has dramatically increased package volume. Many residential delivery mailboxes in use today are designed on the basis of specifications implemented nearly a century ago and are too small to accommodate contemporary parcel volume. As a result, packages delivered by our carriers often cannot fit into residential mail receptacles and must be redelivered, retrieved at a post office, or left on adjacent doorsteps. This latter option leaves the packages susceptible to weather damage. Centralized delivery minimizes these risks.

The Postal Service is directed by statute to provide reliable and efficient service. Centralized Delivery fulfills our responsibility to safe, efficient delivery for both the customer and the Postal Service as we move into the 21st Century. Postal Operations Manual (POM) section 631.2 reflects the guidelines used by local postal managers in determining the mode through which such delivery is to be provided, including type of equipment and location of boxes. I am available to meet with you in the early planning stages of community development or redesign to ensure that all options are provided to you and that mailboxes are installed in an approved location. Meeting early will help avoid potential service problems or disruptions.

As a developer, we believe you will be interested in learning more about centralized mail delivery. For residents and local businesses, centralized delivery creates convenience and security benefits. For property owners it provides a valuable amenity and reduces liability and inconvenience related to lost and stolen packages.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss in further detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Espericueta", written over a horizontal line.

Joseph Espericueta
POSTMASTER
WESLACO, TX 78596