

# HOUSE NUMBERS — NOT JUST A CC&R ISSUE

Published in the June 2009 issue of Hiddenbrooke TIMES

On recent drives around Hiddenbrooke, we have noticed that the builder supplied back-lit house numbers on many homes are burnt out or broken, and some have been replaced with non-electric types, such as brass numbers or painted tiles. This is against Vallejo city code. As a condition to building Hiddenbrooke, the developer was required to provide lighted house numbers, which can be back-lit or have a spotlight on them, all of which need to be maintained by the owner. More importantly, not having your house numbers visible at night poses a serious problem if you need an emergency vehicle such as police, fire or ambulance to respond to your address. When time is of the essence, you will be glad that the house address was visible from the street both day and night.

Most homes in Hiddenbrooke have the rectangle lighted house numbers. If yours is broken or missing, you can purchase a new one at Home Depot. They can be found in the electrical section on the bottom shelf of the main electrical aisle. They are made by *WESTEX* and cost less than \$20.00.

For those of you who have house numbers that are not back lit, we recommend that you check the spotlight to be sure that the bulb over your number is in proper working order. Some homes, including the Village, have light sensors on the side of their homes that turn the lights on and off as the day turns to night and back again. Be sure that your lights are working by checking at night to see if the lights go on when it becomes dark. If you find the lights not working, try replacing the light bulb first. If that fails, you may have a bad sensor. These can also be purchased at Home Depot. You can check your sensor during the daytime by covering up the sensor in such a way that no light can reach it. This can be done by putting some electrical tape or some other opaque tape over the sensor.

Don't forget to check your plants and trees to be sure that they are not growing in such a way as to cover your house address. If they are, trim plants back to expose the address to be visible from the street.

These repairs are not difficult to do, but if you are not comfortable in doing these types of repairs, we recommend you contact a handyman or electrician to do this work for you.