

## Woodland Reserve Safety & Security Awareness Committee

### Porch Security and Preventing Package Theft

April 2021

Package theft in residential neighborhoods is becoming increasingly common. Many instances of package theft are opportunistic and could be prevented. Please consider the following suggestions for improving the security of your porch and packages. The Woodland Reserve Safety & Security Awareness Committee welcomes your feedback and suggestions.

- Identify a location on your porch that is not visible from the street or sidewalk. Leave this area clear and ask couriers to utilize this space when delivering packages. Many online stores accept delivery instructions when checking out.
- Subscribe to delivery notifications and track your packages. Ensure someone will be home when packages are expected to be delivered. Some couriers may allow you to reschedule or redirect deliveries if needed.
- Install a security camera and/or smart doorbell on your porch. This will allow you to monitor and record visitors and deliveries. Motion detection lighting may also be beneficial.
- Ask a neighbor to hold on to a package for you if a package is delivered when you are not home. Look out for your neighbors and let them know when you see packages sitting on their porch.
- If you know you will not be home to accept a delivery consider shipping the package to a different location.
- Locker based delivery services such as Amazon Hub allow you to ship packages to secure, self-service lockers placed in convenient locations. UPS Access Point also allows you to deliver and redirect packages to various UPS Access Point locker locations.
- If you have a smart garage door opener you may be able to have packages delivered inside your garage. Key by Amazon is a service that can do this.