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DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

FOR

OAK ALLEY

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DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

FOR

OAK ALLEY

THIS DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS for OAK ALLEY ("Declaration"), is made as of the date set forth on the signature page hereof by OAK ALLEY DEVELOPERS, INC., a Florida corporation, (the "Declarant").

Declarant is the owner of the real property described on <u>Exhibit "A</u>," which is attached and incorporated by reference. This Declaration imposes upon the Properties mutually beneficial restrictions under a general plan of improvement for the benefit of the owners of each portion of the Properties and establishes a flexible and reasonable procedure for the overall development, administration, maintenance and preservation of the Properties. In furtherance of such plan, this Declaration provides for the creation of Oak Alley Subdivision Property Owners Association, Inc. (the "Association") to own, operate and maintain Common Areas and to administer and enforce the provisions of this Declaration, the By-Laws, and the Design Guidelines (capitalized terms are defined in Article 1 below).

The Association is not a condominium association, and, therefore, shall not be governed by the provisions of Chapter 718, Florida Statutes. This Declaration is not a declaration of condominium. No portion of the Properties is submitted by this Declaration to the condominium form of ownership. Declarant does not intend that any portion of the Properties be submitted to the condominium form of ownership. Further, the expressed intent of this Declaration is that neither the substantive rights nor the procedural rights hereunder shall retroactively be affected by legislation subsequent to the date of the execution of this Declaration.

Declarant hereby declares that all of the property described on **Exhibit "A"** and any Additional Property subjected to this Declaration by Supplemental Declaration shall be held, sold, used and conveyed subject to the following easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions which shall run with the title to the real property subjected to this Declaration. This Declaration shall be binding upon all parties having any right, title, or interest in any portion of the Properties, their heirs, successors, successors-in-title, and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of each owner of any portion of the Properties.

ARTICLE 1: DEFINITIONS

The terms in this Declaration and in the exhibits to this Declaration shall generally be given their natural, commonly accepted definitions except as otherwise specified. Capitalized terms shall be defined as set forth below.

- 1.1 "ARC": The Architectural Review Committee, as described in Section 9.2.
- 1.2 "Area of Common Responsibility": The Common Area, together with any additional areas for which the Association has or assumes responsibility pursuant to the terms of this Declaration, any Supplemental Declaration, any Cost Sharing Agreement, or other applicable covenant, contract, or agreement.
- 1.3 "Articles of Incorporation" or "Articles": The Articles of Incorporation of Oak Alley Property Owners' Association, Inc. as filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Florida, attached hereto as **Exhibit "B"**, as they may be amended.

- 1.4 "Association": Oak Alley Property Owners' Association, Inc., a Florida nonprofit corporation, its successors and assigns.
- 1.5 "Board of Directors" or "Board": The body responsible for administration of the Association, selected as provided in the By-Laws and serving as the board of directors under Florida corporate law.
- 1.6 "Builder": Any Person who purchases one (1) or more Lots for the purpose of constructing improvements thereon for later sale to consumers in the ordinary course of such Person's business. Any Person occupying or leasing a Lot for residential purposes shall cease to be considered a Builder with respect to such Lot immediately upon occupancy of the Lot for residential purposes, notwithstanding that such Person originally purchased the Lot for the purpose of constructing improvements for later sale to consumers.
- 1.7 "By-Laws": The By-Laws of Oak Alley Property Owners' Association, Inc., attached hereto as Exhibit "C", as they may be amended.
- 1.8 "Common Area": All real and personal property, including easements and licenses, which the Association owns, leases or holds possessory or use rights in for the common use, benefit, and enjoyment of the Owners, including without limitation the Surface Water Management System.
- 1.9 "Common Expenses": The actual and estimated expenses incurred, or anticipated to be incurred, by the Association for the general benefit of all Owners, including any reasonable reserve, as the Board may find necessary and appropriate pursuant to the Governing Documents.
- 1.10 "Community-Wide Standard": The standard of conduct, maintenance, or other activity generally prevailing throughout the Properties. Such standard shall initially be established by the Declarant and may be more specifically determined by the Board of Directors.
- 1.11 "Conservation Areas": All areas designated on a recorded plat of the Properties as "Conservation Areas", "Conservation Easements", "Upland Buffer Tracts", "Preservation Areas", "Preservation Easements", "Preserve Easements", "Preserves", "Wetlands", "Wetland Areas", or "Wetland Easements."
- 1.12 "Cost Sharing Agreement": Any agreement, contract, or covenant between the Association and an owner or operator of property adjacent to the Properties, for the allocation of expenses for amenities and/or services that benefit both the Association and the owner or operator of such property.
- 1.13 "Days": Calendar days; provided, however, if the time period by which any action required hereunder must be performed expires on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, then such time period shall be automatically extended to the close of business on the next regular business day.
- 1.14 "<u>Declarant</u>": Oak Alley Developers, Inc., a Florida corporation, or any successor, successor-in-title, or assign who holds or takes title to any portion of the property described on <u>Exhibit</u> "<u>A</u>" for the purpose of development and/or sale and who is designated as the Declarant in a recorded instrument executed by the immediately preceding Declarant; provided, however, there shall be only one (1) Person entitled to exercise the rights and powers of the "Declarant" hereunder at any time.
- 1.15 "<u>Design Guidelines</u>": The design, architectural and construction guidelines and application and review procedures applicable to all or any portion of the Properties promulgated and administered pursuant to Article 9.

- 1.16 "Development Period": The period of time commencing with the recording of this Declaration until the earlier of (a) such time as the Declarant no longer owns any property which is subject to this Declaration, or (b) such time that the Declarant no longer owns a Lot which is either being actively marketed or improved for purposes of being marketed. The Declarant may, but shall not be obligated to, unilaterally relinquish its rights under this Declaration and terminate the Development Period by recording a written instrument in the Public Records.
- 1.17 "Environmental Resource Permit:" Permit No. 56-02037-P dated March 9, 2005, attached hereto as Exhibit "D" and made a part hereof, issued by the South Florida Water Management District for the construction and operation of the Surface Water Management System and the preservation of the Conservation Areas, if any. The Secretary of the Association, or such other person as shall be designated by the Association, shall maintain copies of further South Florida Water Management District permitting actions for the benefit of the Association.
- 1.18 "Garden Area": Portion of the Common Area designated by the Association for the use of the Lot Owners to plant and maintain garden plots.
- 1.19 "General Assessment": Assessments levied on all Lots subject to assessment under Article 8 to fund Common Expenses for the general benefit of all Lots, as more particularly described in Sections 8.1 and 8.2.
- 1.20 "Governing Documents": The Declaration, By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation, all Supplemental Declarations, all Design Guidelines, the rules of the Association, all Cost Sharing Agreements, and all additional covenants governing any portion of the Properties or any of the above, as each may be supplemented and amended from time to time.
- 1.21 "Lot": The platted parcels as depicted and shown on the recorded Plat, to the extent that they are within the Properties, but specifically excluding the Common Area, Conservation Areas, Tracts, Drives, Streets and Entranceways as depicted on the Plat. The term shall refer to the land, if any, which is part of the Lot as well as any improvements thereon, but shall not include property owned by the Association, or property dedicated to the public.
- 1.22 "Majority": Those votes, Owners, Members, or other group, as the context may indicate, totaling more than fifty percent (50%) of the total eligible number.
 - 1.23 "Member": A Person subject to membership in the Association pursuant to Section 3.1.
- 1.24 "Mortgage": A mortgage, a deed of trust, a deed to secure debt, or any other form of security instrument affecting title to any Lot.
 - 1.25 "Mortgagee": A beneficiary or holder of a Mortgage.
- 1.26 "Oak Alley": That certain residential subdivision located in St. Lucie County, Florida and commonly known and referred to as Oak Alley.
- 1.27 "Owner": One (1) or more Persons who hold the record title to any Lot, including the Declarant and any Builders, but excluding in all cases any party holding an interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation. If a Lot is sold under a recorded contract of deed, and the contract specifically so provides, the purchaser (rather than the fee owner) will be considered the Owner. If a Lot is owned by more than one (1) Person, all such Persons shall be jointly and severally obligated to perform the responsibilities of such Owner.

- 1.28 "Person": A natural person, a corporation, a partnership, a limited liability company, a trustee, personal representative, or other fiduciary acting on behalf of another person or any other legal entity.
- 1.29 "<u>Properties</u>": The real property described on <u>Exhibit "A"</u> as such exhibit may be amended or supplemented from time to time to reflect any additions or removal of property in accordance with Article 7.
- 1.30 "Public Records": The Clerk of the Circuit Court of St. Lucie County, Florida or such other place which is designated as the official location for recording of deeds and similar documents affecting title to real estate.
- 1.31 "RV Storage Area": Portion of the Common Area designated by the Association for the parking and storage of recreational vehicles, trailers and/or boats
 - 1.32 "Special Assessment": Assessments levied in accordance with Section 8.4.
 - 1.33 "Specific Assessment": Assessments levied in accordance with Section 8.5.
- 1.34 "Supplemental Declaration": An instrument filed in the Public Records which subjects Additional Property to this Declaration, and/or imposes, expressly or by reference, additional restrictions and obligations on the land described in such instrument.
- 1.35 <u>"Surface Water Management System"</u>: Those roadside swales, ponds, lakes, canals, wetlands and other facilities created and used for drainage, as shown and described in and authorized for construction and operation under, the Environmental Resource Permit.

ARTICLE 2: PROPERTY RIGHTS

- 2.1 <u>Common Area</u>. Every Owner shall have a right and nonexclusive easement of use, access, and enjoyment in and to the Common Area, which is appurtenant to and shall pass with the title to each Lot, subject to:
 - (a) This Declaration and all other Governing Documents;
- (b) Any restrictions or limitations contained in any deed conveying such property to the Association;
- (c) The right of the Board to adopt, amend, and repeal rules regulating the use and enjoyment of the Common Area, including rules limiting the number of guests who may use the Common Area;
- (d) The right of the Association to rent, lease, or reserve any portion of the Common Area to any Owner for the exclusive use of such Owner and his or her respective lessees, invitees, and guests upon such conditions as may be established by the Board;
- (e) The right of the Board to suspend the right of an Owner to use any recreational and social facilities within the Common Area pursuant to Section 4.3;
- (f) The right of the Board to impose reasonable requirements and charge reasonable admission or other use fees for the use of any facility situated upon the Common Area;

- (g) The right of the Board to permit use of any facilities situated on the Common Area by persons other than Owners, their families, lessees and guests upon payment of reasonable use fees, if any, established by the Board;
- (h) The right of the Association, acting through the Board, to mortgage, pledge, or hypothecate any or all of its real or personal property as security for money borrowed or debts incurred;
- (i) The right of the Association, acting through the Board, to dedicate or transfer all or any portion of the Common Area, subject to any approval requirements set forth in the Governing Documents; and
- (j) The right of the Declarant to conduct activities and establish facilities within the Properties as provided in Article 13.

Any Owner may extend his or her right of use and enjoyment to the members of his or her family, lessees, and social invitees, as applicable, subject to reasonable regulation by the Board. An Owner who leases his or her Lot shall be deemed to have assigned all such rights of use and enjoyment to the lessee of such Lot; provided, however, the Owner shall remain responsible for payment of all assessments and other charges.

- 2.2 <u>Private Streets</u>. Every Owner shall have a right and nonexclusive easement of use, access, and enjoyment in and to, over and across any private streets and roads within the Properties ("Private Streets"), whether or not such Private Streets are Common Area, for the purpose of ingress and egress to public rights-of-way. The rights and nonexclusive easements granted herein are appurtenant to the title to each Lot, subject to:
 - (a) This Declaration and all other Governing Documents;
- (b) The right of the Declarant, so long as the Declarant owns the Private Streets, to adopt, amend and repeal rules regulating the use and enjoyment of the Private Streets, provided that the Declarant shall not by the adoption of any rule or regulation bar access of the Owners across the Private Streets;
 - (c) The right of the Declarant to dedicate all or any part of Private Streets;
- (d) The right of the Declarant to mortgage, pledge, or hypothecate any or all of the Private Streets as security for money borrowed or debts incurred, provided that the Declarant shall not subject the Private Streets to any security instrument without obtaining the agreement of the lender to subordinate its interest in the Private Streets to the easements for the Owners contained in this Section; and
 - (e) The rights of the Declarant and the Association to maintain the Private Streets.

Any Owner may extend his or her right of use and enjoyment to the members of his or her family, lessees, and social invitees, as applicable.

- 2.3 RV Storage Area. The RV Storage Area shall be divided into individual parking slips which shall be rented by the Association to the Owners for the purpose of parking a recreational vehicle (as such term is defined in Paragraph 10.7(b) hereof), on a first come, first come basis, subject to:
 - (a) The terms of this Declaration and all other Governing Documents;

- (b) The requirement that no Owner may store any vehicle, boat or trailer in the RV Storage Area, unless and until such Owner delivers to the Association evidence of liability insurance, satisfactory to the Association, in an amount not less than \$250,000.00, insuring the Association against any injury to person or property arising from Owner's storage of such vehicle, boat or trailer in the RV Storage Area, provided however, that (i) the Association shall have the right to require a greater policy limit, and (ii) the minimum required insurance shall be adjusted every five (5) years for any net decline in the purchasing power of the dollar as reflected in the "Cost of Living Index";
- (c) The right of the Board to adopt, amend and repeal rules regulating the use and enjoyment of the RV Storage Area;
- (d) The right of the Board to establish and impose reasonable rent with respect to the use thereof, in an amount calculated to reimburse the Association for all costs associated with the maintenance, management and administration of the RV Storage Area;
 - (e) The requirement that no Owner may sublet or assign a parking slip; and
- (f) The requirement that once all parking slips have been rented out, no Owner may rent more than one (1) parking slip during such time there are other Owners who have made written request to the Association to rent a parking slip, but are unable to rent a parking slip because no parking slips are available.
- 2.4 Garden Area. The Garden Area shall be divided into individual gardening plots which shall be rented by the Association to the Owners for the purpose of planting, fertilizing, watering, maintaining and harvesting a garden, on a first come, first come basis, subject to:
 - (a) The terms of this Declaration and all other Governing Documents;
- (b) The right of the Board to adopt, amend and repeal rules regulating the use and enjoyment of the Garden Area.
- (c) The right of the Board to establish and impose reasonable rent with respect to the use thereof, in an amount calculated to reimburse the Association for all costs associated with the maintenance, management and administration of the Garden Area;
 - (e) The requirement that no Owner may sublet or assign a gardening plot; and
- (f) The requirement that once all gardening plots have been rented out, no Owner may rent more than one (1) gardening plot during such time there are other Owners who have made written request to the Association to rent a gardening plot, but are unable to rent a gardening plot because no gardening plots are available.
- 2.5 No Partition. Except as permitted in this Declaration, there shall be no judicial partition of the Common Area. No Person shall seek any judicial partition unless the portion of the Common Area which is the subject of such partition action has been removed from the provisions of this Declaration. This Section shall not prohibit the Board from acquiring and disposing of other real property which may or may not be subject to this Declaration.
- 2.6 <u>Condemnation</u>. The Association shall be the sole representative of the Owners with respect to condemnation proceedings concerning Common Area and shall act as attorney-in-fact for all Owners in such matters. Whenever any part of the Common Area shall be taken by or conveyed under

threat of condemnation to any authority having the power of condemnation or eminent domain, each Owner shall be entitled to written notice of such taking or conveyance. The Board may convey Common Area under threat of condemnation only if approved by Members holding at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total votes in the Association and, during the Development Period, the written consent of the Declarant. The award made for such taking or proceeds of such conveyance shall be payable to the Association.

If the taking or conveyance involves a portion of the Common Area on which improvements have been constructed, the Association shall restore or replace such improvements on the remaining land included in the Common Area to the extent available, unless within sixty (60) Days after such taking, Members holding at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total vote of the Association and, during the Development Period, the Declarant shall otherwise agree. Any such construction shall be in accordance with plans approved by the Board and the ARC. The provisions of Section 6.1(b) regarding funds for the repair of damage or destruction shall apply.

If the taking or conveyance does not involve any improvements on the Common Area, or if a decision is made not to repair or restore, or if net funds remain after any such restoration or replacement is complete, then such award or net funds may be used by the Association for such purposes as the Board shall determine.

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS

- 3.1 <u>Membership</u>. Every Owner shall be a Member of the Association. There shall be only one (1) membership per Lot. If a Lot is owned by more than one (1) Person, all co-Owners shall share the privileges of such membership, subject to reasonable Board regulation and the restrictions on voting set forth in Section 3.2 and in the By-Laws. The membership rights of an Owner which is not a natural person may be exercised by any officer, director, member, manager, partner or trustee of such Owner, or by any individual designated from time to time by the Owner in a written instrument provided to the secretary of the Association.
- 3.2 <u>Voting</u>. If there is more than one (1) Owner of a Lot, the vote for such Lot shall be exercised as the co-Owners determine among themselves and advise the secretary of the Association in writing prior to the vote being taken. Absent such advice, the Lot's vote shall be suspended if more than one (1) Person seeks to exercise it. No vote shall be exercised on behalf of any Lot if any assessment for such Lot is delinquent.

ARTICLE 4: RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 4.1 <u>Function of Association</u>. The Association shall be the entity responsible for management, maintenance, operation and control of the Area of Common Responsibility and all improvements thereon. The Association shall be the primary entity responsible for enforcement of this Declaration and such reasonable rules regulating use of the Properties as the Board may adopt pursuant to Article 10. The Association shall perform its functions in accordance with the Governing Documents and the laws of the State of Florida.
- 4.2 <u>Personal Property and Real Property for Common Use</u>. The Association may acquire, hold, and dispose of tangible and intangible personal property and real property. The Declarant and its designees, with the Declarant's prior written consent, may convey to the Association improved or unimproved real estate, or interests in real estate, located within the Properties, or personal property and leasehold and other property interests. Such property shall be accepted by the Association and thereafter shall be maintained by the Association at its expense for the benefit of its Members, subject to any

restrictions set forth in the deed or other instrument transferring such property to the Association. Declarant shall not be required to make any improvements or repairs whatsoever to property to be conveyed and accepted pursuant to this Section. Upon written request of Declarant, the Association shall reconvey to Declarant any portions of the Properties originally conveyed by Declarant to the Association for no consideration, to the extent conveyed by Declarant in error or needed by Declarant to make adjustments in property lines, provided that the reconveyance has no material adverse effect upon the rights of the Owners.

- 4.3 <u>Enforcement</u>. The Board may impose sanctions for violation of the Governing Documents. Such sanctions may include, without limitation:
 - (a) imposing monetary fines which shall constitute a lien upon the Lot of the violator;
- (b) filing notices of violations in the Public Records providing record notice of any violation of the Governing Documents;
 - (c) suspending an Owner's right to vote;
- (d) suspending any Person's right to use any recreational facilities within the Common Area; provided, however, nothing herein shall authorize the Board to limit ingress or egress to or from a Lot; and
- (e) suspending any services provided by the Association to an Owner or the Owner's Lot if the Owner is more than thirty (30) Days delinquent in paying any assessment or other charge owed to the Association.

In the event that any occupant, guest, or invitee of a Lot violates the Governing Documents, the Board may sanction such occupant, guest or invitee and/or the Owner of the Lot that the violator is occupying or visiting. If a fine is imposed, the fine may first be assessed against the occupant; provided, however, if the fine is not paid by the occupant within the time period set by the Board, the Owner shall pay the fine upon notice from the Board.

In addition, the Board may elect to enforce any provision of the Governing Documents by exercising self-help (specifically including, but not limited to, the filing of liens in the Public Records for non-payment of assessments and other charges, the towing of vehicles that are in violation of parking rules, the removal of pets that are in violation of pet rules, or the correction of any maintenance, construction or other violation of the Governing Documents) provided such self-help actions do not breach the peace. The Association may levy Specific Assessments to cover all costs incurred in exercising self-help and in bringing a Lot into compliance with the terms of the Governing Documents.

The Association may also elect to enforce any provisions of the Governing Documents by suit at law or in equity to enjoin any violation or to recover monetary damages or both.

All remedies set forth in this Declaration and the By-Laws shall be cumulative of any remedies available at law or in equity. In any action or remedy taken by the Association to enforce the provisions of the Governing Documents, if the Association prevails, it shall be entitled to recover all costs, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs, incurred in such action.

The Association shall not be obligated to take action to enforce any covenant, restriction, or rule which the Board in the exercise of its business judgment determines is, or is likely to be construed as, inconsistent with applicable law, or in any case in which the Board reasonably determines that the

Association's position is not strong enough to justify taking enforcement action. Any such determination shall not be construed a waiver of the right of the Association to enforce such provision under any circumstances or prevent the Association from enforcing any other covenant, restriction or rule.

The Association, by contract or other agreement, may enforce county, city, state, and federal ordinances, if applicable, and permit local and other governments to enforce ordinances on the Properties for the benefit of the Association and its Members.

- 4.4 <u>Implied Rights; Board Authority</u>. The Association may exercise any right or privilege given to it expressly by this Declaration or the By-Laws, or reasonably implied from or reasonably necessary to effectuate any such right or privilege. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Declaration, the By-Laws, the Articles, or by law, all rights and powers of the Association may be exercised by the Board without a vote of the membership.
- 4.5 <u>Indemnification</u>. The Association shall indemnify every officer, director, ARC member and committee member against all damages, liabilities, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with any action, suit, or other proceeding (including settlement of any suit or proceeding, if approved by the then Board of Directors) to which he or she may be a party by reason of being or having been an officer, director, ARC member or committee member, except that such obligation to indemnify shall be limited to those actions for which liability is limited under this Section, the Articles of Incorporation, and Florida law.

The officers, directors, ARC members, and committee members shall not be liable for any mistake of judgment, negligent or otherwise, except for their own individual willful misfeasance, malfeasance, misconduct, or bad faith. The officers, directors, ARC members, and committee members shall have no personal liability with respect to any contract or other commitment made or action taken in good faith on behalf of the Association (except to the extent that such officers, directors, ARC members, or committee members may also be Members of the Association). The Association shall indemnify and forever hold each such officer, director, ARC member, and committee member harmless from any and all liability to others on account of any such contract, commitment, or action. This right to indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which any present or former officer, director, ARC member, or committee member may be entitled. The Association shall, as a Common Expense, maintain adequate general liability and officers' and directors' liability insurance to fund this obligation, if such insurance is reasonably available.

- 4.6 <u>Dedication of or Grant of Easements on Common Area</u>. The Association may dedicate or grant easements across portions of the Common Area to St. Lucie County, Florida, or to any other local, state, or federal governmental or quasi-governmental entity, or to any private utility company.
- 4.7 Security. Each Owner and occupant of a Lot, and their respective guests and invitees, shall be responsible for their own personal safety and the security of their property in the Properties. The Association may, but shall not be obligated to, maintain or support certain activities within the Properties designed to make the Properties safer than they otherwise might be. Neither the Association, the original Declarant, nor any successor Declarant shall in any way be considered insurers or guarantors of security within the Properties, nor shall any of them be held liable for any loss or damage by reason of failure to provide adequate security or ineffectiveness of security measures undertaken. No representation or warranty is made that any burglar alarm system or other security system or measure, including any mechanism or system for limiting access to the Properties, cannot be compromised or circumvented, nor that any such system or security measure undertaken will in all cases prevent loss or provide the detection or protection for which the system is designed or intended. No representation or warranty is made that the lighting facilities or systems (including the placement thereof) will adequately illuminate or attempt to

adequately illuminate all of the Common Areas, or that such facilities or systems will be designed with safety measures in mind. Each Owner acknowledges, understands, and covenants to inform its tenants and all occupants of its Lot that the Association, its Board of Directors and committees, Declarant, and any successor Declarant are not insurers and that each Person using the Properties assumes all risks of personal injury and loss or damage to property, including Lots and the contents of Lots, resulting from acts of third parties.

- 4.8 Restricted Access Fence and Gates. Access to all or any portion of the Properties may, at the Declarant's or Board of Director's sole discretion, be restricted by a fence and one or more gates located along the perimeter of the Properties. Vehicular access into the Properties may be restricted by electronically operated or other controlled access entry gates located at the entrances into the Properties, and pedestrian access may be restricted by pedestrian gates at other points as well. The restricted access gates may or may not be staffed, at the discretion of the Declarant or Board of Directors. Any such gate staffing may be modified or eliminated at any time without notice. The use and operation of any restricted access fence and gate may be limited or eliminated from time to time by the Declarant or the Board of Directors.
- Provision of Services. The Association may provide services and facilities for the 4.9 Members of the Association and their guests, lessees, and invitees. The Association shall be authorized to enter into contracts or other similar agreements with other entities, including Declarant, to provide such services and facilities. The costs of services and facilities provided by the Association may be funded by the Association as a Common Expense. In addition, the Board shall be authorized to charge use and consumption fees for services and facilities through Specific Assessments or by requiring payment at the time the service or facility is provided. As an alternative, the Association may arrange for the costs of the services and facilities to be billed directly to Owners by the provider(s) of such services and facilities. By way of example, some services and facilities which may be provided include landscape maintenance, garbage collection, pest control service, cable, digital, satellite or similar television service, internet, intranet, and other computer related services, security, caretaker, fire protection, utilities, and similar services and facilities. The Board, without the consent of the Members of the Association, shall be permitted to modify or cancel existing services or facilities provided, if any, or to provide additional services and facilities. Nothing contained herein can be relied upon as a representation as to the services and facilities, if any, which will be provided by the Association.
- 4.10 <u>Rezoning.</u> No Owner or any other Person may apply or join in an application to amend, vary or modify the zoning classification applicable to the Properties or apply for any zoning variance or waiver as to all or any portion of the Properties without the prior written consent of Declarant. Declarant may apply for such rezoning as to any portion of the Properties owned by it at any time.
- 4.11 Presence and Management of Wildlife. Each Owner and occupant, and each tenant, guest and invitee of any Owner or occupant acknowledges that the Properties are located adjacent to and in the vicinity of wetlands, bodies of water and other natural areas. Such areas may contain wildlife, including without limitation, deer, opossums, raccoons, alligators, reptiles, spiders and snakes. Neither, the Association, the Board, the original Declarant, nor any successor Declarant shall be liable or responsible for any personal injury, illness or any other loss or damage caused by the presence of such wildlife on the Properties. Each Owner and occupant of a Lot and each tenant, guest, and invitee of any Owner or occupant shall assume all risk of personal injury, illness, or other loss or damage arising from the presence of such wildlife and further acknowledges that the Association, the Board, the original Declarant or any successor Declarant have made no representations or warranties, nor has any Owner or occupant, or any tenant, guest, or invitee of any Owner or occupant relied upon any representations or warranties, expressed or implied, relative to the presence of such wildlife.

ARTICLE 5: MAINTENANCE

5.1 Association's Responsibility.

(a) The Association shall maintain and keep in good condition, order and repair the Area of Common Responsibility, which may include, but need not be limited to:

(i) all Common Area;

- (ii) all landscaping and other flora, parks, ponds, structures, and improvements, including any entry features, private streets, parking areas, sidewalks, buffers and bike and pedestrian pathways/trails located upon the Common Area, or as deemed necessary in the discretion of the Board, located within public rights-of-way within or abutting the Properties or upon such other public land adjacent to the Properties;
 - (iii) all furnishings, equipment and other personal property of the Association;
- (iv) such additional portions of any property included within the Area of Common Responsibility as may be dictated by this Declaration, any Supplemental Declaration, any Cost Sharing Agreement, or any contract or agreement for maintenance thereof entered into by the Association;
- (v) the Surface Water Management System (as more specifically set forth in Article 14 hereinbelow) and all ponds, streams and/or wetlands located within the Properties which serve as part of the drainage and storm water retention system for the Properties, including any retaining walls, bulkheads or dams (earthen or otherwise) retaining water therein, and any fountains, lighting, pumps, conduits, and similar equipment installed therein or used in connection therewith; and
- (vi) any property and facilities owned by the Declarant and made available, on a temporary or permanent basis, for the primary use and enjoyment of the Association and its Members, such property and facilities to be identified by written notice from the Declarant to the Association and to remain a part of the Area of Common Responsibility and be maintained by the Association until such time as Declarant revokes such privilege of use and enjoyment by written notice to the Association; and

(vii) all Conservation Areas.

The Association may, as a Common Expense, maintain other property and improvements which it does not own, including, without limitation, property dedicated to the public, or provide maintenance or services related to such property over and above the level being provided by the property owner, if the Board of Directors determines that such maintenance is necessary or desirable to maintain the Community-Wide Standard.

- (b) The Association shall maintain the facilities and equipment within the Area of Common Responsibility in continuous operation, except for any periods necessary, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board, to perform required maintenance or repairs, unless Members holding sixty-seven percent (67%) of the votes in the Association and during the Development Period the Declarant agree in writing to discontinue such operation.
- (c) The Association may be relieved of all or any portion of its maintenance responsibilities herein to the extent that (i) such maintenance responsibility is otherwise assumed by and assigned to an Owner or (ii) such property is dedicated to any local, state, or federal government or quasi-governmental entity; provided, however, that in connection with such assumption, assignment or dedication, the

Association may reserve or assume the right or obligation to continue to perform all or any portion of its maintenance responsibilities, if the Board determines that such maintenance is necessary or desirable to maintain the Community-Wide Standard. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Association shall be obligated to maintain all portions of the Surface Water Management System located within the boundaries of each Lot in the event the Owner fails to do so, and nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to relieve the Association of this obligation.

The Area of Common Responsibility shall not be reduced by amendment of this Declaration or any other means during the Development Period except with the written consent of the Declarant.

- (d) Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, all costs associated with maintenance, repair and replacement of the Area of Common Responsibility shall be a Common Expense to be allocated among all Lots as part of the General Assessment, without prejudice to the right of the Association to seek reimbursement from the owner(s) of, or other Persons responsible for, certain portions of the Area of Common Responsibility pursuant to the Governing Documents, any recorded covenants, or any agreements with the owner(s) thereof.
- (e) In the event that the Association fails to properly perform its maintenance responsibilities hereunder and to comply with the Community-Wide Standard, the Declarant may, upon not less than ten (10) Days' notice and opportunity to cure such failure, cause such maintenance to be performed and in such event, shall be entitled to reimbursement from the Association for all costs incurred.
- 5.2 Owner's Responsibility. Each Owner shall maintain his or her Lot, (whether or not the Lot has been improved), and all structures, parking areas, sprinkler and irrigation systems, landscaping and other flora, and other improvements on the Lot in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and all Governing Documents, unless such maintenance responsibility is otherwise assumed by and assigned to the Association. In addition to any other enforcement rights, if an Owner fails properly to perform his or her maintenance responsibilities, the Association may perform such maintenance responsibilities and assess all costs incurred by the Association against the Lot and the Owner in accordance with Section 8.5(b). The Association shall afford the Owner reasonable notice and an opportunity to cure the problem prior to entry, except when entry is required due to an emergency situation. Entry under this Section shall not constitute a trespass. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Association shall be obligated to maintain all portions of the Surface Water Management System located within the boundaries of each Lot in the event the Owner fails to do so, and nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to relieve the Association of this obligation.
- 5.3 <u>Standard of Performance</u>. Unless otherwise specifically provided herein or in other instruments creating and assigning such maintenance responsibility, responsibility for maintenance shall include responsibility for repair and replacement, as necessary. All maintenance shall be performed in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and all Governing Documents. Neither the Association nor any Owner shall be liable for any damage or injury occurring on, or arising out of the condition of, property, which such Person does not own, except to the extent that it has been negligent in the performance of its maintenance responsibilities.
- 5.4 <u>Cost Sharing Agreements</u>. Adjacent to or in the vicinity of the Properties, there may be certain residential, nonresidential or recreational areas, including without limitation single-family residential developments, retail, commercial, or business areas, which are not subject to this Declaration and which are neither Lots nor Common Area as defined in this Declaration (hereinafter "adjacent properties"). The owners of such adjacent properties shall not be Members of the Association, shall not be entitled to vote, and shall not be subject to assessment under Article 8 of this Declaration.

The Association may enter into one (1) or more Cost Sharing Agreements with the owners or operators of portions of the adjacent properties:

- (a) to obligate the owners or operators of such adjacent properties to perform and/or to share in certain costs associated with, the maintenance, repair, replacement and insuring of portions of the Area of Common Responsibility, if any, which are used by or benefit jointly the owners or operators of such adjacent properties and the owners within the Properties;
- (b) to permit use of any recreational and other facilities located on the Common Areas by the owners or operators of such adjacent properties;
- (c) to permit use of any recreational and other facilities located on such adjacent properties by the Owners of all Lots;
- (d) to obligate the Association to share in certain costs associated with the maintenance, repair, replacement and insuring of portions of such adjacent properties, if any, which are used by or benefit jointly the owners or operators of such adjacent properties and the owners within the Properties; and/or
- (e) to establish rules and regulations regarding the use of areas that benefit jointly the owners or operators of such adjacent properties and the owners within the Properties.

The owners or operators of such adjacent properties shall be subject to assessment by the Association only in accordance with the provisions of such Cost Sharing Agreement(s). If the Association is obligated to share costs incurred by the owners of such adjacent properties, such payments by the Association shall be deemed to constitute Common Expenses of the Association unless the Cost Sharing Agreement provides otherwise. The owners or operators of the adjacent properties shall not be subject to the restrictions contained in this Declaration except as otherwise specifically provided herein.

ARTICLE 6: INSURANCE AND CASUALTY LOSSES

6.1 Association Insurance.

(a) Required Coverages. The Association, acting through its Board or its duly authorized agent, shall obtain and continue in effect: (i) blanket property insurance for all insurable improvements on the Common Area which can be insured for a reasonable premium, against loss or damage by fire or other hazards, including extended coverage, sufficient to cover the full replacement cost of the insured improvements; (ii) comprehensive public liability insurance in amounts established by the Board from time to time, but in no event less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence with respect to bodily injury, including death, personal injury, and property damage; (iii) directors and officers liability coverage on behalf of any person who is or was a director or officer of the Association against any liability against such director or officer and incurred by the director or officer in such capacity; (iv) fidelity insurance covering all Persons responsible for handling Association funds in an amount determined in the Board's best business judgment; and (v) such additional insurance as the Board, in its best business judgment, determines advisable.

Premiums for all Association insurance shall be Common Expenses and shall be included in the General Assessment. In the event of an insured loss, the deductible shall be treated as a Common Expense and assessed in the same manner as the premiums for the applicable insurance coverage. However, if the Board reasonably determines, after notice and an opportunity to be heard in accordance with the By-Laws, that the loss resulted from the negligence or willful misconduct of one (1) or more

Owners, their guests, invitees, or lessees, then the Board may specifically assess the full amount of such deductible against such Owner(s) and their Lots pursuant to Section 8.5.

(b) <u>Damage and Destruction</u>. In the event of any insured loss covered by insurance held by the Association, only the Board or its duly authorized agent may file and adjust insurance claims and obtain reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair or reconstruction. Repair or reconstruction, as used in this subsection, means repairing or restoring the property to substantially the condition existing prior to the damage, allowing for changes or improvements necessitated by changes in applicable building codes.

Any damage to or destruction of the Common Area shall be repaired or reconstructed unless the Members holding at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total votes in the Association, and, during the Development Period, Declarant decide within sixty (60) Days after the loss either (i) not to repair or reconstruct or (ii) to construct alternative improvements.

If either the insurance proceeds or reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair or reconstruction, or both, are not available to the Association within such sixty (60) Day period, then the period shall be extended until such funds or information are available. However, such extension shall not exceed sixty (60) additional Days. No Mortgagee shall have the right to participate in the determination of whether the damage or destruction to the Common Area shall be repaired or reconstructed.

If determined in the manner described above that the damage or destruction to the Common Area shall not be repaired or reconstructed and no alternative improvements are authorized, the affected property shall be cleared of all debris and ruins and thereafter shall be maintained by the Association in a neat and attractive, landscaped condition consistent with the Community-Wide Standard.

Any insurance proceeds remaining after paying the costs of repair or reconstruction, or after such settlement as is necessary and appropriate, shall be retained by and for the benefit of the Association, as appropriate, and placed in a capital improvements account. This is a covenant for the benefit of Mortgagees and may be enforced by the Mortgagee of any affected Lot.

If insurance proceeds are insufficient to cover the costs of repair or reconstruction, the Board of Directors may, without a vote of the Members, levy Special Assessments to cover the shortfall against those Owners responsible for the premiums for the applicable insurance coverage under Section 6.1.

6.2 Owners' Insurance. By virtue of taking title to a Lot, each Owner covenants and agrees with all other Owners and with the Association to carry property insurance for the full replacement cost of all insurable improvements on his or her Lot, less a reasonable deductible.

Each Owner further covenants and agrees that in the event of damage to or destruction of structures or landscaping on or comprising his or her Lot, the Owner shall proceed promptly to repair or to reconstruct the damaged structure or landscaping consistent with the original construction or such other plans and specifications as are approved in accordance with Article 9. Alternatively, the Owner shall clear the Lot of all debris and ruins and maintain the Lot in a neat and attractive, landscaped condition consistent with the Community-Wide Standard. The Owner shall pay any costs which are not covered by insurance proceeds.

6.3 <u>Limitation of Liability</u>. Notwithstanding the duty of the Association to maintain and repair portions of the Common Area, neither the Association, its Board of Directors, its successors or assigns, nor any officer or director or committee member, employee, agent, contractor (including the management company, if any) of any of them shall be liable to any Member or any member of a

Member's immediate household for any injury or damage sustained in the Area of Common Responsibility, the Common Area or other area maintained by the Association, or for any injury or damage caused by the negligence or misconduct of any Members or their family members, guests, invitees, agents, servants, contractors or lessees, whether such loss occurs in the Common Area or in individual Lots.

Each Owner, by virtue of the acceptance of title to his or her Lot, and each other Person having an interest in or right to use any portion of the Properties, by virtue of accepting such interest or right to use, shall be bound by this Section and shall be deemed to have automatically waived any and all rights, claims, demands, and causes of action against the Association arising from or connected with any matter for which the liability of the Association has been disclaimed under this Section.

ARTICLE 7: ANNEXATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF PROPERTY

7.1 Annexation by Declarant. Until expiration of the Development Period, Declarant may from time to time unilaterally subject additional real property to the provisions of this Declaration. The Declarant may transfer or assign this right to annex property, provided that the transferee or assignee is the developer of at least a portion of the real property described in Exhibit "A" and that such transfer is memorialized in a written, recorded instrument executed by Declarant.

Such annexation shall be accomplished by filing a Supplemental Declaration in the Public Records describing the property being annexed. Such Supplemental Declaration shall not require the consent of the Members, but shall require the consent of the owner of such property, if other than Declarant. Any such annexation shall be effective upon the filing for record of such Supplemental Declaration unless otherwise provided therein.

Nothing in this Declaration shall be construed to require the Declarant or any successor to annex or develop any of the Additional Property in any manner whatsoever.

7.2 <u>Annexation by Membership</u>. The Association may annex any real property to the provisions of this Declaration with the consent of the owner of such property, the affirmative vote of Members holding a Majority of the votes of the Association represented at a meeting duly called for such purpose, and, during the Development Period, the written consent of the Declarant.

Such annexation shall be accomplished by filing a Supplemental Declaration describing the property being annexed in the Public Records. Any such Supplemental Declaration shall be signed by the president and the secretary of the Association, and by the owner of the property being annexed, and by the Declarant, if the Declarant's consent is required. Any such annexation shall be effective upon filing unless otherwise provided therein.

- 7.3 <u>Withdrawal of Property.</u> During the Development Period, the Declarant has the right to unilaterally amend this Declaration for the purpose of removing any portion of the Properties from the coverage of this Declaration. Such amendment shall not require the consent of any Person other than the owner of the property to be withdrawn, if not the Declarant. If the property is Common Area, the Association shall execute a written consent to such withdrawal.
- 7.4 Additional Covenants and Easements. Any real property annexed to the provisions of the Declaration by Declarant, pursuant to paragraph 7.1 hereof, may also be unilaterally subjected to additional covenants and easements by Declarant. Such additional covenants and easements shall be set forth in a Supplemental Declaration filed either concurrently with or after the annexation of the subject property, and shall require the written consent of the owner(s) of such property, if other than the

Declarant. Any such Supplemental Declaration may supplement, create exceptions to, or otherwise modify the terms of this Declaration as it applies to the subject property for such purposes as deemed appropriate in the Declarant's sole discretion, including, but not limited to, modifications to reflect the different character and intended use of such property.

7.5 <u>Amendment</u>. This Article shall not be amended during the Development Period without the prior written consent of Declarant.

ARTICLE 8: ASSESSMENTS

8.1 <u>Creation of Assessments</u>. There are hereby created assessments for Association expenses as the Board may specifically authorize from time to time. There shall be three (3) types of assessments: (a) General Assessments to fund Common Expenses for the general benefit of all Lots; (b) Special Assessments as described in Section 8.4; and (c) Specific Assessments as described in Section 8.5. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or entering into a recorded contract of sale for any portion of the Properties, is deemed to covenant and agree to pay these assessments.

All assessments and other charges, together with interest, late charges, costs of collection, and reasonable attorneys fees, shall be a charge and continuing lien upon each Lot against which the assessment or charge is made until paid, as more particularly provided in Section 8.5(c). Each such assessment or charge, together with interest, late charges, costs, and reasonable attorneys fees, also shall be the personal obligation of the Person who was the Owner of such Lot at the time the assessment arose. Upon a transfer of title to a Lot, the grantee shall be jointly and severally liable for any assessments and other charges due at the time of conveyance. However, no first Mortgagee who obtains title to a Lot by exercising the remedies provided in its Mortgage shall be liable for unpaid assessments which accrued prior to such acquisition of title.

The Association shall, upon request, furnish to any Owner liable for any type of assessment a written statement signed by an Association officer or designee setting forth whether such assessment has been paid. Such statement shall be conclusive evidence of payment. The Association may require the advance payment of a reasonable processing fee for the issuance of such statement.

Assessments shall be paid in such manner and on such dates as the Board may establish, which may include discounts for early payment or similar time/price differentials. The Board may require advance payment of assessments at closing of the transfer of title to a Lot and impose special requirements for Owners with a history of delinquent payment. If the Board so elects, assessments may be paid in two (2) or more installments. Unless the Board otherwise provides, the General Assessment shall be due and payable in advance on the first day of each fiscal year. If any Owner is delinquent in paying any assessments or other charges levied on his or her Lot, the Board may require any unpaid installments of all outstanding assessments to be paid in full immediately. Any assessment or installment thereof shall be considered delinquent on the fifteenth (15th) day following the due date unless otherwise specified by Board resolution.

No Owner may exempt himself or herself from liability for assessments by non-use of Common Area reserved for such Owner's use, abandonment of his or her Lot, or any other means. The obligation to pay assessments is a separate and independent covenant on the part of each Owner. No diminution or abatement of assessments or set-off shall be claimed or allowed for any alleged failure of the Association or Board to take some action or perform some function required of it, or for inconvenience or discomfort arising from the making of repairs or improvements, or from any other action taken by the Association or Board.

The Association is specifically authorized to enter into subsidy contracts or contracts for "in kind" contribution of services, materials, or a combination of services and materials with the Declarant or other entities for payment of Common Expenses.

8.2 <u>Computation of General Assessments</u>. At least thirty (30) Days before the beginning of each fiscal year, the Board shall prepare a budget covering the estimated Common Expenses during the coming year, which may include a contribution to establish a reserve fund in accordance with a budget separately prepared as provided in Section 8.3. During the Development Period, Common Expenses shall not include any expenses incurred for initial development, original construction, installation of infrastructure, original capital improvements, or other original construction costs unless approved by Members holding a Majority of the total votes of the Association.

General Assessments shall be levied equally against all Lots subject to assessment. The assessment rate shall be set at a level which is reasonably expected to produce total income for the Association equal to the total budgeted Common Expenses, including any reserves. In determining the level of General Assessments, the Board, in its discretion, may consider other sources of funds available to the Association, including any surplus from prior years, any assessment income expected to be generated from any additional Lots reasonably anticipated to become subject to assessment during the fiscal year, and any income expected to be generated from any Cost Sharing Agreement.

During the Development Period, the Declarant may, but shall not be obligated to, reduce the General Assessment for any fiscal year by payment of a subsidy and/or contributions of services and materials, which may be treated as either a contribution or an advance against future sums due from the Declarant, or a loan, in the Declarant's discretion. Any such anticipated payment or contribution by the Declarant shall be disclosed as a line item in the Common Expense budget. Payments by the Declarant in any year shall under no circumstances obligate the Declarant to continue such payments in future years unless otherwise provided in a written agreement between the Association and the Declarant.

The Board shall send a copy of the budget and notice of the amount of the General Assessment for the following year to each Owner at least thirty (30) Days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year for which it is to be effective. Such budget and assessment shall become effective unless disapproved at a meeting by Members holding at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total votes in the Association and, during the Development Period, by the Declarant. There shall be no obligation to call a meeting for the purpose of considering the budget except on petition of the Members as provided for special meetings in the By-Laws, which petition must be presented to the Board within twenty (20) Days after the date of the notice of assessments. If a meeting is requested, assessments pursuant to such proposed budget shall not become effective until after such meeting is held, provided such assessments shall be retroactive to the original effective date of the budget if the budget is not disapproved at such meeting.

If the proposed budget is disapproved or the Board fails for any reason to determine the budget for any year, then until such time as a budget is determined, the budget in effect for the immediately preceding year shall continue for the current year. In such event or if the budget proves inadequate for any reason, the Board may prepare a revised budget for the remainder of the fiscal year. The Board shall send a copy of the revised budget to each Owner at least thirty (30) Days prior to its becoming effective. The revised budget shall become effective unless disapproved in accordance with the above procedure.

8.3 Reserve Budget. The Board may, in its sole discretion, annually prepare reserve budgets for general purposes which take into account the number and nature of replaceable assets within the Area of Common Responsibility, the expected life of each asset, and the expected repair or replacement cost. The Board shall include in the general budget reserve amounts sufficient to meet the projected needs of the Association.

- 8.4 <u>Special Assessments</u>. In addition to other authorized assessments, the Association may levy Special Assessments from time to time to cover unbudgeted expenses or expenses in excess of those budgeted. Special Assessments shall be allocated equally among all Lots. Any Special Assessment shall become effective unless disapproved at a meeting by Members holding at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total votes and, during the Development Period, by the Declarant. There shall be no obligation to call a meeting for the purpose of considering any Special Assessment except on petition of the Members as provided for special meetings in the By-Laws, which petition must be presented to the Board within twenty (20) Days after the date of the notice of such Special Assessment. Special Assessments shall be payable in such manner and at such times as determined by the Board, and may be payable in installments extending beyond the fiscal year in which the Special Assessment is approved.
- 8.5 <u>Specific Assessments</u>. The Association shall have the power to levy Specific Assessments against a particular Lot or Lots as follows:
- (a) to cover the costs, including overhead and administrative costs, of providing benefits, items, or services to the Lot(s) or occupants thereof upon request of the Owner pursuant to a menu of special services which the Board may from time to time authorize to be offered to Owners and occupants (which might include, without limitation, landscape maintenance, garbage collection, pest control service, cable, digital, satellite or similar television service, internet, intranet, and other computer related services, security, utilities, and similar services and facilities), which assessments may be levied in advance of the provision of the requested benefit, item or service as a deposit against charges to be incurred by the Owner; and
- (b) to cover all costs incurred in bringing the Lot(s) into compliance with the terms of the Governing Documents, or costs incurred as a consequence of the conduct of the Owner or occupants of the Lot, their agents, contractors, employees, licensees, invitees, or guests.
- (c) In addition, fines levied by the Association pursuant to Section 4.3 shall constitute Specific Assessments.
- 8.6 <u>Lien for Assessments</u>. The Association shall have a lien against each Lot to secure payment of assessments and other charges, as well as interest at a rate to be set by the Board (subject to the maximum interest rate limitations of Florida law), late charges in such amount as the Board may establish (subject to the limitations of Florida law), costs of collection and reasonable attorneys' fees. Such lien shall be superior to all other liens, except (a) the liens of all taxes, bonds, assessments, and other levies which by law would be superior, and (b) the lien or charge of any first Mortgage of record (meaning any recorded Mortgage with first priority over other Mortgages) made in good faith and for value. Such lien may be enforced by suit, judgment, judicial foreclosure, and such non-judicial foreclosure as may be allowed by law or in equity.

The Declarant or the Association may bid for the Lot at the foreclosure sale and acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, and convey the Lot. While a Lot is owned by the Association following foreclosure: (a) no right to vote shall be exercised on its behalf; (b) no assessment shall be levied on it; and (c) each other Lot shall be charged, in addition to its usual assessment, its pro rata share of the assessment allocated to the Lot owned by the Association. The Association may sue for unpaid assessments and other charges authorized hereunder without foreclosing or waiving the lien securing the same.

The sale or transfer of any Lot shall not affect the assessment lien or relieve such Lot from the lien for any subsequent assessments. A First Mortgagee or other purchaser of a Lot who obtains title pursuant to foreclosure of the First Mortgage shall not be personally liable for assessments on such Lot due prior to such acquisition of title. Such unpaid assessments shall remain the personal obligation of the

owner of the Lot prior to the foreclosure, and, unless and until collected from such prior owner, shall be deemed to be Common Expenses collectible from Owners of all Lots subject to assessment under Section 8.6, including such acquirer, its successors and assigns.

All other Persons acquiring liens or encumbrances on any Lot after this Declaration has been recorded shall be deemed to consent that such liens or encumbrances shall be inferior to future liens for assessments, as provided herein, whether or not prior consent is specifically set forth in the instruments creating such liens or encumbrances.

- 8.6 <u>Date of Commencement of Assessments</u>. The obligation to pay assessments shall commence as to each Lot on the date on which the Lot is conveyed to a Person other than Declarant. The first annual General Assessment levied on each Lot shall be adjusted according to the number of days remaining in the fiscal year at the time assessments commence on the Lot.
- 8.7 <u>Failure to Assess</u>. Failure of the Board to establish assessment amounts or rates or to deliver or mail each Owner an assessment notice shall not be deemed a waiver, modification, or a release of any Owner from the obligation to pay assessments. In such event, each Owner shall continue to pay General Assessments on the same basis as during the last year for which an assessment was made, if any, until a new assessment is levied, at which time the Association may retroactively assess any shortfalls in collections.
- 8.8 <u>Exempt Property</u>. The following property shall be exempt from payment of General Assessments and Special Assessments:
- (a) all Common Area and such portions of the property owned by the Declarant as are included in the Area of Common Responsibility pursuant to Section 5.1;
- (b) any property dedicated or otherwise conveyed to and accepted by any governmental authority or public utility;
- (c) any property that is owned by a charitable nonprofit corporation or public agency whose primary purposes include the acquisition and preservation of open space for public benefit and held by such agency or organization for such recreational and open space purposes.
- Capitalization of Association. Upon acquisition of record title to a Lot by the first Owner thereof other than Declarant or upon occupancy of a Lot by a Person other than Declarant, Declarant may at Declarant's sole option require that a contribution be made by or on behalf of the purchaser or occupant to the working capital of the Association in an amount to be determined by Declarant, but not more than one-sixth (1/6th) of the annual General Assessment per Lot for that year. This amount shall be in addition to, not in lieu of, the annual General Assessment and shall not be considered an advance payment of such assessment. This amount shall be collected and disbursed to the Association at closing of the purchase and sale of the Lot to the first Owner, or if the obligation to make the capital contribution arises by virtue of occupancy of a Lot by a Person other than Declarant, the capital contribution shall be paid immediately upon demand by the Association. Capital contributions shall be used by the Association in covering operating expenses and other expenses incurred by the Association pursuant to the Governing Documents.
- 8.10 <u>Declarant's Obligation for Assessments.</u> During the Development Period, the Declarant may annually elect to pay either (a) an amount equal to the assessments on all of its unsold Lots, notwithstanding the commencement date set forth in Section 8.7; or (b) the difference between the amount of assessments levied on all other Lots subject to assessment and the amount of actual operating

expenditures by the Association during the fiscal year. Actual operating expenses shall not include capital expenditures or amounts to be set aside for reserves or contingencies. Unless the Declarant otherwise notifies the Board in writing prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the Declarant shall be deemed to have elected to continue paying on the same basis as during the immediately preceding fiscal year. The Declarant's obligation hereunder may be satisfied in the form of cash or by "in kind" contributions of services or materials, or by a combination of these. After termination of the Development Period, the Declarant shall pay assessments on any unsold Lots in the same manner as any other Owner.

8.12 <u>Assessments for Cost of Surface Water Management System</u>. The Association shall be responsible for assessing and collecting fees for the operation, maintenance, and if necessary, replacement of the Surface Water Management System, in accordance with Article 14 hereof, and for any maintenance of the Conservation Areas which may be necessary.

ARTICLE 9: ARCHITECTURAL STANDARDS

9.1 General. No exterior structure or improvement, as described in Section 9.4, shall be placed, erected, installed or made upon any Lot or any other portion of the Properties except in compliance with this Article, and with the prior written approval of the ARC under Section 9.2, unless exempted from the application and approval requirements pursuant to Section 9.3.

All dwellings constructed on any portion of the Properties shall be designed by and built in accordance with the plans and specifications of a licensed architect or other qualified building designer, unless otherwise approved by the ARC in its sole discretion.

This Article shall not apply to the activities of the Declarant, nor to improvements to the Common Area by or on behalf of the Association. This Article may not be amended during the Development Period without the Declarant's written consent.

- Architectural Review. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or other instrument conveying 9.2 any interest in any portion of the Properties acknowledges that, as the developer of the Properties, Declarant has a substantial interest in ensuring that all structures and improvements within the Properties enhance Declarant's reputation as a community developer and do not impair Declarant's ability to market or sell any portion of the Properties or the Additional Property. Therefore, the Declarant may, on its behalf, establish an ARC to be responsible for administration of the Design Guidelines and review of all applications for construction and modifications under this Article. The ARC shall consist of one (1) or more Persons who may, but are not required to, be Members of the Association or representatives of Members, and may, but need not, include architects, landscape architects, engineers or similar professionals, whose compensation, if any, shall be established from time to time by the ARC. The ARC may establish and charge reasonable fees for review of applications hereunder and may require such fees to be paid in full prior to review of any application. Such fees may include the reasonable costs incurred in having any application reviewed by architects, engineers or other professionals. In addition, the ARC may require deposits while construction is pending on any Lot to ensure completion without damage to the Properties.
- (a) <u>Architectural Review Committee</u>. The ARC shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all construction on any portion of the Properties. Until expiration of the Development Period, the Declarant retains the right to appoint all members of the ARC who shall serve at Declarant's discretion. There shall be no surrender of this right prior to that time except in a written instrument in recordable form executed by Declarant. Upon the expiration or surrender of such right, the Board shall appoint the members of the ARC, who shall thereafter serve and may be removed in the Board's discretion.

9.3 Guidelines and Procedures.

(a) <u>Design Guidelines</u>. The Declarant shall prepare the initial Design Guidelines for the Properties. The Design Guidelines may contain general provisions applicable to all of the Properties, as well as specific provisions which vary according to land use and from one (1) portion of the Properties to another depending upon the location, unique characteristics, and intended use. For example, by way of illustration but not limitation, the Design Guidelines may impose stricter requirements on those portions of the Properties adjacent to or visible from any pond, canal, river, stream or other body of water. The Design Guidelines are intended to provide guidance to Owners and Builders regarding matters of particular concern to the ARC in considering applications hereunder. The Design Guidelines are not the exclusive basis for decisions of the ARC and compliance with the Design Guidelines does not guarantee approval of any application.

The ARC shall adopt the Design Guidelines at its initial organizational meeting and thereafter shall have sole and full authority to amend them. Any amendments to the Design Guidelines shall be prospective only. There shall be no limitation on the scope of amendments to the Design Guidelines except that no amendment shall require the modification or removal of any structure previously approved once the approved construction or modification has commenced. The ARC is expressly authorized to amend the Design Guidelines to remove requirements previously imposed or otherwise to make the Design Guidelines less restrictive.

The ARC shall make the Design Guidelines available to Owners and Builders who seek to engage in development or construction within the Properties.

(b) <u>Procedures</u>. Plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, color, size, materials, and location of all proposed structures and improvements shall be submitted to the ARC for review and approval (or disapproval). In addition, information concerning irrigation systems, drainage, lighting, landscaping and other features of proposed construction shall be submitted as applicable and as required by the Design Guidelines. In reviewing each submission, the ARC may consider the quality of workmanship and design, harmony of external design with existing structures, and location in relation to surrounding structures, topography, and finish grade elevation, among other considerations. Decisions may be based solely on aesthetic considerations. Each Owner acknowledges that opinions on aesthetic matters are subjective and may vary over time.

Each application to the ARC shall contain a representation and warranty by the Owner that use of the plans submitted does not violate any copyright associated with the plans. Neither the submission of the plans to the ARC, nor the distribution and review of the plans by the ARC shall be construed as publication in violation of the designer's copyright, if any. Each Owner submitting plans to the ARC shall hold the members of the ARC, the Association and the Declarant harmless and shall indemnify said parties against any and all damages, liabilities, and expenses incurred in connection with the review process of this Declaration.

In reviewing and acting upon requests for approval, the ARC shall be acting solely in Declarant's interest for as long as Declarant retains the right to appoint the members of the ARC, and thereafter solely in the interest of the Owners, and shall owe no duty to any other Person. Decisions may be based solely on aesthetic considerations. Each Owner acknowledges that opinions on aesthetic matters are subjective and may vary over time. The ARC shall have the sole discretion to make final, conclusive, and binding determinations on matters of aesthetic judgment and whether proposed improvements are consistent with Design Guidelines.

In the event that the ARC fails to approve or to disapprove any application within thirty (30) Days after submission of all information and materials reasonably requested, the application shall be deemed approved. However, no approval, whether expressly granted or deemed granted pursuant to the foregoing, shall be inconsistent with the Design Guidelines unless a variance has been granted in writing by the ARC pursuant to Section 9.6.

Notwithstanding the above, the ARC by resolution may exempt certain activities from the application and approval requirements of this Article, provided such activities are undertaken in strict compliance with the requirements of such resolution. Any Owner may remodel, paint or redecorate the interior of structures on his or her Lot without approval. However, modifications to the interior of screened porches, patios, and similar portions of a Lot visible from outside the structures on the Lot shall be subject to approval. No approval shall be required to repaint the exterior of a structure in accordance with the originally approved color scheme or to rebuild in accordance with originally approved plans and specifications.

(c) <u>Delinquent Assessments and Other Charges</u>. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) above, any application for the approval of plans and specifications as set forth in this Article shall be deemed to be disapproved unless and until any and all delinquent assessments and other charges permitted by this Declaration have been paid current by the Owner submitting such plans and specifications for approval.

Subsequent to the approval of plans and specifications pursuant to this Article, if the Owner shall become delinquent in the payment of assessments or other charges permitted by this Declaration at any time during the prosecution of the approved work, the Owner shall be deemed to be in violation of such approval and shall be subject to any means of enforcement set forth in Section 9.8 and Section 4.3.

9.4 Specific Guidelines and Restrictions.

- (a) Exterior Structures and Improvements. Exterior structures and improvements shall include, but shall not be limited to, staking, clearing, excavation, grading and other site work; initial construction of any dwelling or accessory building; exterior alteration of existing improvements; installation or replacement of hardscape, such as driveways, walkways, or parking areas; mailboxes; basketball hoops; swing sets and similar sports and play equipment; clotheslines; garbage cans; wood piles; swimming pools; docks, piers, or boathouses; gazebos or playhouses; window air-conditioning units or fans; hot tubs; wells; solar panels; antennas; satellite dishes or any other apparatus for the transmission or reception of television, radio, satellite, or other signals of any kind; hedges, walls, dog runs, animal pens, or fences of any kind, including invisible fences; artificial vegetation or sculpture; and planting or removal of landscaping materials. Notwithstanding the foregoing, there shall be no prohibition against antennas or satellite dishes which cannot be seen from the street fronting the Lot, and the Declarant and the Association shall further regulate antennas, satellite dishes, or any other apparatus for the transmission or reception of television, radio, satellite or other signals of any kind only in strict compliance with all federal laws and regulations.
- (b) In addition to the foregoing activities requiring prior approval, the following items are strictly regulated, and the reviewing body shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to prohibit or restrict these items within the Properties. Each Owner must strictly comply with the terms of this Section unless approval or waiver in writing is obtained from the ARC. The ARC may, but is not required to, adopt additional specific guidelines as part of the Design Guidelines.
- (i) Signs. No sign of any kind shall be erected by an Owner or occupant without the prior written consent of the ARC, except (i) such signs as may be required by legal proceedings; (ii) not

more than one (1) professional security sign of such size deemed reasonable by the ARC in its sole discretion; (iii) not more than one (1) "For Rent" or "For Sale" sign not to exceed two feet (2') by two feet (2') on any Lot being offered for sale or for lease; (iv) not more than one (1) political campaign sign not to exceed two feet (2') by two feet (2') for such time periods as established by the ARC; and (v) such additional signs as may be permitted in the Design Guidelines; provided, however, all signs shall be posted and erected in accordance with any requirements set forth in the Design Guidelines. Unless in compliance with this Section, no other signs shall be posted or erected by any Owner or occupant within any portion of the Properties, including the Common Area, any structure or dwelling located on the Common Area or any Lot (if such sign would be visible from the exterior of such structure or dwelling as determined in the reviewing body's sole discretion).

The Declarant and the ARC reserve the right to prohibit signs and to restrict the size, content, color, lettering, design and placement of any approved signs. All permitted signs must be professionally prepared. This provision shall not apply to entry, directional, or other signs installed by the Declarant or its duly authorized agent as may be necessary or convenient for the marketing and development of the Properties.

- (ii) <u>Tree Removal.</u> No trees that are more than six inches (6") in diameter at a point two feet (2') above the ground shall be removed without the prior written consent of the ARC. The ARC may adopt or impose requirements for, or condition approval of, tree removal upon the replacement of any tree removed.
- (iii) <u>Lighting</u>. Exterior lighting visible from the street shall not be permitted except for: (i) approved lighting as originally installed on a Lot; (ii) one (1) approved decorative post light; (iii) pathway lighting; (iv) street lights in conformity with an established street lighting program for the Properties; (v) seasonal decorative lights during the holiday season; and (vi) any additional lighting as may be approved by the ARC. All lights shall be installed or aimed so that they do not present a disabling glare to drivers or pedestrians or create a nuisance by projecting or reflecting objectionable light onto a neighboring property.
- (iv) <u>Temporary Structures</u>. Except as may be permitted by the ARC during initial construction, no temporary house, dwelling, garage, or outbuilding shall be placed or erected on any Lot. Except as provided in Section 10.7(b), no mobile home, trailer home, travel trailer, camper or recreational vehicle shall be stored, parked, or otherwise allowed to be placed on a Lot as a temporary or permanent dwelling.
- (v) Accessory Structures. With the approval of the ARC, detached accessory structures may be placed on a Lot to be used for a playhouse, swimming pool, tennis court, tool shed, dog house, garage or other approved use. A garage may also be an attached accessory structure. Such accessory structures shall conform in exterior design and quality to the dwelling on the Lot. With the exception of a garage that is attached to a dwelling and except as may be provided otherwise by the ARC, an accessory structure placed on a Lot shall be located only behind the dwelling as such dwelling fronts on the street abutting such Lot or in a location approved by the ARC. All accessory structures shall be located within side and rear setback lines as may be required by the ARC or by applicable zoning law.
- (vi) <u>Utility Lines</u>. Overhead utility lines, including lines for cable television, are not permitted except for temporary lines as required during construction and lines installed by or at the request of Declarant.
- (vii) Standard Mailboxes. The ARC reserves the right to approve the style, design, color and location prior to any original installation or replacement of any mailbox. Application shall be

made to the ARC prior to installation or replacement of a mailbox. By accepting a deed to a Lot, each Owner agrees that the ARC may remove any non-approved mailbox in a reasonable manner; all costs for same shall be paid by Owner of such Lot, and all claims for damages caused by the ARC are waived.

- 9.5 No Waiver of Future Approvals. Approval of proposals, plans and specifications, or drawings for any work done or proposed, or in connection with any other matter requiring approval, shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver of the right to withhold approval as to any similar proposals, plans and specifications, drawings, or other matters subsequently or additionally submitted for approval.
- 9.6 <u>Variance</u>. The ARC may authorize variances from compliance with any of its guidelines and procedures when circumstances such as topography, natural obstructions, hardship, or aesthetic or environmental considerations require, but only in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the ARC. Such variances may only be granted, however, when unique circumstances dictate and no variance shall (a) be effective unless in writing; (b) be contrary to this Declaration; or (c) prevent the ARC from denying a variance in other circumstances. For purposes of this Section, the inability to obtain approval of any governmental agency or the issuance of any permit, or the terms of any financing shall not be considered a hardship warranting a variance unless the same prevents the Lot Owner from building on the Lot under the then current building code.
- Article are intended to provide a mechanism for maintaining and enhancing the overall aesthetics of the Properties only, and shall not create any duty to any Person. Review and approval of any application pursuant to this Article is made on the basis of aesthetic considerations only, and neither the Declarant, the Association, the Board, nor the ARC shall bear any responsibility for ensuring the structural integrity or soundness of approved construction or modifications, the adequacy of soils or drainage, nor for ensuring compliance with building codes and other governmental requirements, nor for ensuring that all dwellings are of comparable quality, value or size, of similar design, or aesthetically pleasing or otherwise acceptable to neighboring property owners. Neither the Declarant, the Association, the Board, the ARC or any committee, or member of any of the foregoing shall be held liable for any injury, damages, or loss arising out of the manner or quality of approved construction on or modifications to any Lot. In all matters, the Board, the committees and their members shall be defended and indemnified by the Association as provided in Section 4.5.
- 9.8 The Declarant, any member of the ARC or the Board, or the Enforcement. representatives of each shall have the right, during reasonable hours and after reasonable notice, to enter upon any Lot to inspect for the purpose of ascertaining whether any structure or improvement is in violation of this Article. Any structure, improvement or landscaping placed or made in violation of this Article shall be deemed to be nonconforming. Upon written notice from the ARC, Owners shall, at their own cost and expense, remove such structure or improvement and restore the property to substantially the same condition as existed prior to the nonconforming work. Should an Owner fail to remove and restore the property as required, any authorized agent of Declarant, the ARC, or the Board shall have the right to enter the property, remove the violation, and restore the property to substantially the same condition as previously existed, provided such presence does not breach the peace. Entry for such purposes and in compliance with this Section shall not constitute a trespass. In addition, the Board may enforce the decisions of the Declarant, and the ARC by any means of enforcement described in Section 4.3. All costs, together with the interest at the maximum rate then allowed by law, may be assessed against the benefited Lot and collected as a Specific Assessment pursuant to Section 8.5.

Unless otherwise specified in writing by the committee granting approval, all approvals granted hereunder shall be deemed conditioned upon completion of all elements of the approved work and all work previously approved with respect to the same Lot, unless approval to modify any application has

been obtained. If, after commencement, any Person fails to diligently pursue to completion all approved work, the Association shall be authorized, after notice to the Owner of the Lot and an opportunity to be heard in accordance with the By-Laws, to enter upon the Lot and remove or complete any incomplete work, provided such presence does not breach the peace, and to assess all costs incurred against the Lot and the Owner thereof as a Specific Assessment pursuant to Section 8.5.

Neither the ARC or any member of the foregoing nor the Association, the Declarant, or their members, officers or directors shall be held liable to any Person for exercising the rights granted by this Article. Any contractor, subcontractor, agent, employee, or other invitee of an Owner who fails to comply with the terms and provisions of this Article or the Design Guidelines may be excluded by the ARC from the Properties, subject to the notice and hearing procedures contained in the By-Laws.

In addition to the foregoing, the Association shall have the authority and standing to pursue all legal and equitable remedies available to enforce the provisions of this Article and the decisions of the ARC.

ARTICLE 10: USE RESTRICTIONS

- 10.1 General. This Article sets out certain use restrictions which must be complied with by all Owners and occupants of any Lot. The Properties shall be used only for residential, recreational, and related purposes (which may include, without limitation, a sales office for Declarant or any real estate broker retained by Declarant to assist in the sale of property described on Exhibit "A", consistent with this Declaration and any Supplemental Declaration.
- Rules and Regulations. In addition to the use restrictions set forth in this Article, the Board may, from time to time, without consent of the Members, promulgate, modify, or delete rules and regulations applicable to the Properties. Such rules shall be distributed to all Owners and occupants prior to the date that they are to become effective and shall thereafter be binding upon all Owners and occupants until and unless overruled, canceled, or modified in a regular or special meeting by Members holding a Majority of the total votes in the Association, and, during the Development Period, the written consent of the Declarant.
- 10.3 Occupants Bound. All provisions of the Declaration, By-Laws, and of any rules and regulations, use restrictions or Design Guidelines governing the conduct of Owners and establishing sanctions against Owners shall also apply to all occupants even though occupants are not specifically mentioned.
- 10.4 Leasing. Lots may be leased for residential purposes only. All leases shall require, without limitation, that the tenant acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Declaration, By-Laws, use restrictions, and rules and regulations of the Association. The lease shall also obligate the tenant to comply with the foregoing. The Board may require notice of any lease together with such additional information deemed necessary by the Board.
- 10.5 Residential Use. Lots may be used only for residential purposes of a single family and for ancillary business or home office uses. A business or home office use shall be considered ancillary so long as: (a) the existence or operation of the activity is not apparent or detectable by sight, sound, or smell from outside the Lot; (b) the activity conforms to all zoning requirements for the Properties; (c) the activity does not involve regular visitation of the Lot by clients, customers, suppliers, or other invitees or door-to-door solicitation of residents of the Properties; (d) the activity does not increase traffic or include frequent deliveries within the Properties; and (e) the activity is consistent with the residential character of

the Properties and does not constitute a nuisance, or a hazardous or offensive use, or threaten the security or safety of other residents of the Properties, as may be determined in the sole discretion of the Board.

No other business, trade, or similar activity shall be conducted upon a Lot without the prior written consent of the Board. The terms "business" and "trade," as used in this provision, shall be construed to have their ordinary, generally accepted meanings and shall include, without limitation, any occupation, work, or activity undertaken on an ongoing basis which involves the provision of goods or services to persons other than the provider's family and for which the provider receives a fee, compensation, or other form of consideration, regardless of whether: (a) such activity is engaged in full or part-time, (b) such activity is intended to or does generate a profit, or (c) a license is required.

The leasing of a Lot shall not be considered a business or trade within the meaning of this Section. This Section shall not apply to any activity conducted by the Declarant or a Builder approved by the Declarant with respect to its development and sale of the Properties or its use of any Lots which it owns within the Properties, including the operation of a timeshare or similar program.

No garage sale, moving sale, rummage sale, auction or similar activity shall be conducted upon a Lot without the prior written consent of the Board and compliance with any rules adopted by the Board.

10.6 Occupancy of Unfinished Dwellings. No dwelling erected upon any Lot shall be occupied in any manner before commencement of construction or while in the course of construction, nor at any time prior to the dwelling being fully completed and the issuance of a certificate of occupancy by the requisite governmental authority.

10.7 Vehicles.

- (a) Automobiles and non-commercial trucks and vans shall be parked only in the garages or in the driveways, if any, serving the Lots unless otherwise approved by the ARC; provided, however, the Declarant and/or the Association may designate certain on-street parking areas for visitors or guests subject to reasonable rules. No automobile or non-commercial truck or van may be left upon any portion of the Properties, except in a garage, if it is unlicensed or if it is in a condition such that it is incapable of being operated upon the public highways. Such vehicle shall be considered a nuisance and may be removed from the Properties. No motorized vehicles shall be permitted on pathways, sidewalks, or unpaved Common Area except for public safety vehicles authorized by the Board.
- (b) Recreational vehicles shall be parked only in the RV Storage Area, garages serving the Lots or, with the prior written approval of the Board, other hard-surfaced areas which are not visible from the street; provided, however, guests of an Owner or occupant may park a recreational vehicle on the driveway serving such Owner's or occupant's Lot for a period not to exceed seven (7) Days each calendar year. "Visibility" shall be determined by the ARC in its sole discretion. The term "recreational vehicles," as used herein, shall include, without limitation, motor homes, mobile homes, boats, "jet skis" or other watercraft, trailers, other towed vehicles, motorcycles, mini-bikes, scooters, go-carts, golf carts, campers, buses, commercial trucks and commercial vans. Any recreational vehicle parked or stored in violation of this provision in excess of seven (7) Days shall be considered a nuisance and may be removed from the Properties.
- (c) Service and delivery vehicles may be parked in the Properties during daylight hours for such periods of time as are reasonably necessary to provide service or to make a delivery within the Properties.

- (d) All vehicles shall be subject to such reasonable rules and regulations as the Board of Directors may adopt.
- (e) Electric powered golf carts may be operated on the roads within the Properties, and on any sidewalks, paths or portions of the Common Area designated by the Board. The Board shall have the right to impose rules on the use of golf carts within the Properties from time to time, or limit or prohibit the use of golf carts on certain roads, sidewalks, paths or Common Areas. In no event shall any person operate a motorized vehicle or golf cart anywhere within the Properties who does not have a valid driver's license.
- 10.8 <u>Private Streets</u>. The Private Streets shall be subject to the provisions of this Declaration regarding use of Common Area. Additionally, Owners of Lots and other permitted users of the Private Streets pursuant to Section 2.2 shall be obligated to refrain from any actions which would deter from or interfere with the use and enjoyment of the Private Streets by other authorized users of the Private Streets. Prohibited activities shall include without limitation obstruction of any of the Private Streets.
- anything be kept, parked or stored on any part of the Common Area without the prior written consent of the Board. With the prior written approval of the Board of Directors, and subject to any restrictions imposed by the Board, an Owner or Owners may reserve portions of the Common Area for use for a period of time as set by the Board. Any such Owner or Owners who reserve a portion of the Common Area as provided herein shall thereby assume, on behalf of himself/herself/themselves and his/her/their guests, occupants and family, all risks associated with the use of the Common Area and all liability for any damage or injury to any person or thing as a result of such use. Furthermore, any such Owner or Owners who reserve a portion of the Common Area as provided herein shall thereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Association against any cost, damages or liability arising from any property damage, personal injury or death as a result of such use. The Association shall not be liable for any damage or injury resulting from such use unless such damage or injury is caused solely by the willful acts or gross negligence of the Association, its agents or employees.
- Animals and Pets. No animals, livestock, or poultry of any kind may be raised, bred, kept, or permitted on any Lot, with the exception of dogs, cats, or other usual and common household pets in reasonable number, as determined by the Board. No animals shall be kept, bred or maintained for commercial purposes without prior written Board approval. All pets shall be reasonably controlled by the owner whenever outside a dwelling and shall be kept in such a manner as to not become a nuisance by excessive barking or other acts. The owners of the pet shall be responsible for all of the pet's actions. Pets shall not be permitted in any lake, pond or other body of water. If, in the sole opinion of the Board, any animal becomes dangerous or an annoyance or nuisance in the Properties or to nearby property or destructive of wildlife, such animal shall be removed from the Properties. By way of explanation and not limitation, this Section may be enforced by exercising self-help rights provided in Section 4.3. This provision shall not be construed to interfere with any provision under the Americans with Disabilities Act or any similar applicable federal, state or local law, ordinance or regulation. Service animals in active use shall be permitted on the Properties.
- 10.11 Nuisance. It shall be the responsibility of each Owner and occupant to prevent the development of any unclean, unhealthy, unsightly, or unkempt condition on his or her property. No property within the Properties shall be used, in whole or in part, for the storage of any property or thing that will cause such Lot to appear to be in an unclean or untidy condition or that will be obnoxious to the eye; nor shall any substance, thing, or material be kept that will emit foul or obnoxious odors or that will cause any noise or other condition that will or might, in the sole discretion of the Board, disturb the peace, quiet, safety, comfort, or serenity of the occupants of surrounding property.

No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on within the Properties, nor shall anything be done tending to cause embarrassment, discomfort, annoyance, or nuisance to any Person using any property within the Properties. There shall not be maintained any plants or animals or device or thing of any sort whose activities or existence in any way is noxious, dangerous, unsightly, unpleasant, or of a nature as may diminish or destroy the enjoyment of the Properties. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, no speaker, horn, whistle, siren, bell, amplifier or other sound device, except such devices as may be used exclusively for security purposes or as approved by the ARC, shall be located, installed or maintained upon the exterior of any Lot unless required by law. Any siren or device for security purposes shall contain a device or system which causes it to shut off automatically.

The reasonable and normal development, construction and sales activities conducted or permitted by the Declarant shall not be considered a nuisance or a disturbance of the quiet enjoyment of any Owner or occupant.

10.12 Storage of Materials, Garbage, Dumping, Etc. All garbage cans shall be located or screened so as to be concealed from view of neighboring streets and property. All rubbish, trash, and garbage shall be regularly removed and shall not be allowed to accumulate. There shall be no dumping of grass clippings, leaves or other debris; rubbish, trash or garbage; petroleum products, fertilizers, or other potentially hazardous or toxic substances in any pond, lake, drainage ditch or stream within the Properties, except that fertilizers may be applied to landscaping on Lots provided care is taken to minimize runoff.

Each Owner shall maintain its Lot in a neat and orderly condition throughout initial construction of a residential dwelling and not allow trash or debris from its activities to be carried by the wind or otherwise scattered within the Properties. Storage of construction materials on the Lot shall be subject to such conditions, rules, and regulations as may be set forth in the Design Guidelines. Each Owner shall keep roadways, easements, swales, and other portions of the Properties clear of silt, construction materials and trash from its activities at all times. Trash and debris during initial construction of a residential dwelling shall be contained in standard size dumpsters or other appropriate receptacles and removed regularly from Lots and shall not be buried or covered on the Lot. Any Lot on which construction is in progress may be policed prior to each weekend, and during the weekend all materials shall be neatly stacked or placed and any trash or waste materials shall be removed. In addition, Owners shall remove trash and debris from the Lot upon reasonable notice by Declarant in preparation for special events.

- 10.13 <u>Combustible Liquid</u>. There shall be no storage of gasoline, propane, heating or other fuels, except for a reasonable amount of fuel that may be stored in containers appropriate for such purpose on each Lot for emergency purposes and operation of lawn mowers, grills, and similar tools or equipment and except as may be approved in writing by the ARC. The Association shall be permitted to store fuel for operation of maintenance vehicles, generators and similar equipment.
- 10.14 <u>Guns</u>. The discharge of firearms on the Properties is prohibited. The term "firearms" includes without limitation "B-B" guns, pellet guns, and firearms of all types. The Board may impose fines and exercise other enforcement remedies as set forth in this Declaration, but shall have no obligation to exercise self-help to prevent or stop any such discharge.
- 10.15 <u>Subdivision of Lot</u>. No Lot shall be subdivided, Lots consolidated, or boundary lines changed after a subdivision plat including such Lot has been approved and filed in the Public Records without the Declarant's prior written consent during the Development Period, and the prior written consent of the ARC thereafter. In addition, no home shall be subdivided or partitioned to create housing for more than a single family. Declarant, however, hereby expressly reserves the right to replat any Lot

or Lots which it owns during the Development Period. Any such division, boundary line change, or replatting shall not be in violation of the applicable subdivision and zoning regulations, if any.

10.16 <u>Sight Distance at Intersections</u>. All property located at street intersections or driveways shall be landscaped, improved and maintained so as to permit safe sight across such areas. No fence, wall, hedge or shrub shall be placed or permitted to remain where it would cause a traffic or sight problem.

10.17 <u>Drainage and Grading</u>.

- (a) Catch basins and drainage areas are for the purpose of natural flow of water only. No improvements, obstructions or debris shall be placed in these areas. No Owner or occupant may obstruct or rechannel the drainage flows after location and installation of drainage swales, storm sewers, or storm drains.
- (b) Each Owner shall be responsible for maintaining all drainage areas located on its Lot. Required maintenance shall include, but not be limited to, maintaining ground cover in drainage areas and removing any accumulated debris from catch basins and drainage areas.
- (c) Each Owner shall be responsible for controlling the natural and man-made water flow from its Lot. No Owner shall be entitled to overburden the drainage areas or drainage system within any portion of the Properties with excessive water flow from its Lot. Owners shall be responsible for all remedial acts necessary to cure any unreasonable drainage flows from Lots. Neither the Association nor the Declarant bears any responsibility for remedial actions to any Lot.
- (d) Use of any areas designated as "drainage easement areas" on any recorded subdivision plat of the Properties, shall be subject to strict prohibitions against encroachment of structures into, over or across the drainage easement areas, and the right of the Declarant, during the Development Period, and thereafter the Board, to enter upon and maintain the drainage easement areas. Such maintenance activities may include disturbance of landscaping pursuant to the terms contained in any declaration of easements, notwithstanding approval of the landscaping as set forth in Article 9.
- (e) No Person shall alter the grading of any Lot without prior approval pursuant to Article 9 of this Declaration. The Declarant hereby reserves for itself and the Association a perpetual easement across the Properties for the purpose of altering drainage and water flow. The exercise of such an easement shall not materially diminish the value of, or unreasonably interfere with the use of, any Lot without the Owner's consent.
- 10.18 <u>Irrigation</u>. Owners shall not install irrigation systems which draw upon waters from any lakes, ponds, or other body of water within the Properties. However, the Declarant and the Association shall have the right to draw water from such sources for the purpose of irrigating the Area of Common Responsibility.
- as "wetlands", "preserve", or "preserve area" shall be generally left in a natural state, and any proposed alteration of the foregoing areas must be in accordance with any restrictions or covenants recorded against such property and be approved by all appropriate regulatory bodies. Prior to any alteration of a Lot, the Owner shall determine if any portion thereof meets the requirements for designation as a regulatory wetland. If approved, the Association may maintain boardwalks over, around, and in such wetlands. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Section, the Declarant, the Association, and the successors.

assigns, affiliates and designees of each may conduct such activities as have been or may be permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or any successor thereof responsible for the regulation of wetlands.

10.20 <u>Clothes Lines</u>. No outdoor clothes drying lines or related facilities shall be allowed within any Lot if such are visible from the street fronting such Lot. The Association shall have the right to reasonably require each such clothes drying area to be landscaped in a fashion which will camouflage the presence of such clothes drying lines or facilities.

ARTICLE 11: EASEMENTS

Declarant reserves, creates, establishes, promulgates, and declares the non-exclusive, perpetual easements set forth herein for the enjoyment of the Declarant, the Association, the Members, the Owners, and their successors-in-title.

11.1 <u>Easements for Utilities, Etc.</u>

(a) Declarant reserves, creates, establishes, promulgates and declares non-exclusive, perpetual, reciprocal, appurtenant easements, for itself during the Development Period, and at all times for the Association, and the designees of each (which may include, without limitation, any governmental or quasi-governmental entity and any utility company) upon, across, over, and under all of the Properties (but not through a structure, existing or proposed) to the extent reasonably necessary for the purpose of installing, constructing, monitoring, replacing, repairing, maintaining, operating and removing cable, digital or similar television systems, master television antenna systems, internet service systems and other devices for sending or receiving data and/or other electronic signals; security and similar systems; roads, walkways, pathways and trails; lakes, ponds, wetlands, irrigation, and drainage systems; street lights and signage; and all utilities, including, but not limited to, water, sewer, telephone, gas, and electricity, and utility meters; and an easement for access of vehicular and pedestrian traffic over, across, and through the Properties, as necessary, to exercise the easements described above.

Declarant may assign to the local water supplier, sewer service provider, electric company, telephone company, natural gas supplier, internet service provider or cable service provider the easements set forth herein across the Properties for ingress, egress, installation, reading, replacing, repairing, and maintaining utility lines, meters and boxes, as applicable.

- (b) Declarant reserves, creates, establishes, promulgates and declares for itself and its successors, assigns or designees, during the Development Period, non-exclusive, perpetual, reciprocal, appurtenant easements over the Properties, and the non-exclusive right and power to grant such specific easements as may be necessary, in the sole discretion of Declarant, in connection with the orderly development of the Properties. Without in any way limiting the foregoing, Declarant and its successors, assigns or designees shall have the right to grant to any governmental or quasi-governmental authority, during the Development Period, such non-exclusive perpetual easements over the Common Areas and the Private Streets within the Properties, as Declarant may deem necessary or desirable for the orderly development of the Properties.
- (c) Any damage to a Lot resulting from the exercise of the easements described in subsections (a) and (b) of this Section shall promptly be repaired by, and at the expense of, the Person exercising the easement. The exercise of these easements shall not extend to permitting entry into the structures on any Lot, nor shall it unreasonably interfere with the use of any Lot, and except in an emergency, entry onto any Lot shall be made only after reasonable notice to the Owner or occupant.

- (d) Declarant reserves unto itself the right, during the Development Period and in the exercise of its sole discretion, upon the request of any Person holding an interest in the Properties, (i) to release all or any portion of the Properties from the burden, effect, and encumbrance of any of the easements granted or reserved under this Section, or (ii) to define the limits of any such easements.
- 11.2 <u>Easement for Slope Control, Drainage and Waterway Maintenance</u>. Declarant reserves, creates, establishes, promulgates and declares non-exclusive, perpetual, appurtenant easements, for itself and the Association, and their respective representatives, successors and assigns, contractors and agents, over, across, under, through and upon the Properties, including each Lot, for the purposes of:
- (a) controlling soil erosion, including grading and planting with vegetation any areas of any portion of the Properties which are or may be subject to soil erosion;
- (b) drainage of natural or man-made water flow and water areas from any portion of the Properties;
- (c) changing, modifying or altering the natural flow of water, water courses or waterways within the Properties;
- (d) dredging, enlarging, reducing or maintaining any water areas or waterways within the Properties; and
- (e) installing such pipes, lines, conduits or other equipment as may be necessary for slope control, drainage and waterway maintenance of any portion of the Properties.
- Basement for Entry. Declarant reserves, creates, establishes, promulgates and declares non-exclusive, perpetual, appurtenant easements for the Association to enter upon any Lot for emergency, security, and safety reasons. Such right may be exercised by any member of the Board, officers, committee members, agents, employees and managers of the Association, and by all police officers, fire fighters, ambulance personnel, and similar emergency personnel in the performance of their duties. Except in emergencies, entry onto a Lot shall be only during reasonable hours and after notice to the Owner. This easement includes the right to enter any Lot to cure any condition which may increase the possibility of fire, slope erosion, immediate risk of personal injury, or other hazard if an Owner fails or refuses to cure the condition within a reasonable time after request by the Board, but shall not authorize entry into any dwelling without permission of the Owner, except by emergency personnel acting in their official capacities. Entry under this Section shall not constitute a trespass, provided that the same does not breach the peace.

11.4 Easements for Maintenance and Enforcement.

- (a) Declarant reserves, creates, establishes, promulgates and declares non-exclusive, perpetual, appurtenant rights and easements for the Association to enter all portions of the Properties, including each Lot but excluding the interior of any residential dwelling, to (i) perform its maintenance responsibilities under Article 5, and (ii) make inspections to ensure compliance with the Governing Documents. Except in emergencies, entry onto a Lot shall be only during reasonable hours. This easement shall be exercised with a minimum of interference to the quiet enjoyment of Owners' property, and any damage shall be repaired by the Association at its expense.
- (b) Declarant reserves, creates, establishes, promulgates and declares non-exclusive, perpetual, appurtenant rights and easements for the Association to enter any Lot, excluding the interior of any residential dwelling, to abate or remove, using such measures as may be reasonably necessary, any

structure, thing or condition which violates the Governing Documents, provided that the same does not breach the peace. All costs incurred, including reasonable attorneys' fees, may be assessed against the violator as a Specific Assessment.

- (c) Entry under this Section shall not constitute a trespass, provided that the same does not breach the peace, and prior notice to the Owner shall not be required except as provided in Section 5.2.
- 11.5 <u>Easements for Wetlands</u>. Declarant reserves, creates, establishes, promulgates and declares for itself and its successors, assigns, and designees and the Association the nonexclusive, perpetual, appurtenant right and easement, but not the obligation, to enter upon the Conservation Areas and wetlands located within the Properties to fulfill maintenance responsibilities as provided in this Declaration. The Declarant, the Association, and their designees shall have an access easement over and across any of the Properties abutting or containing any portion of any Conservation Area or wetland to the extent reasonably necessary to exercise their rights under this Section.
- 11.6 <u>Liability for Use of Easements</u>. No Owner shall have a claim or cause of action against the Declarant, the Association, their successors or assigns, arising out of the exercise or non-exercise of any easement reserved hereunder or shown on any subdivision plat for the Properties, except in cases of willful or wanton misconduct.

ARTICLE 12: MORTGAGEE PROVISIONS

The following provisions are for the benefit of holders, insurers and guarantors of first Mortgages on Lots in the Properties. The provisions of this Article apply to both this Declaration and to the By-Laws, notwithstanding any other provisions contained therein.

- 12.1 <u>Notices of Action</u>. An institutional holder, insurer, or guarantor of a first Mortgage who provides a written request to the Association (such request to state the name and address of such holder, insurer, or guarantor and the street address of the Lot to which its Mortgage relates, thereby becoming an "Eligible Holder"), will be entitled to timely written notice of:
- (a) Any condemnation loss or any casualty loss which affects a material portion of the Properties or which affects any Lot on which there is a first Mortgage held, insured, or guaranteed by such Eligible Holder;
- (b) Any delinquency in the payment of assessments or charges owed by a Lot subject to the Mortgage of such Eligible Holder, where such delinquency has continued for a period of sixty (60) Days, or any other violation of the Declaration or By-Laws relating to such Lot or the Owner or occupant which is not cured within sixty (60) Days;
- (c) Any lapse, cancellation, or material modification of any insurance policy maintained by the Association; or
- (d) Any proposed action which would require the consent of a specified percentage of Eligible Holders pursuant to Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation requirements,
- 12.2 <u>No Priority</u>. No provision of this Declaration or the By-Laws gives or shall be construed as giving any Owner or other party priority over any rights of the first Mortgagee of any Lot in the case of distribution to such Owner of insurance proceeds or condemnation awards for losses to or a taking of the Common Area.

- 12.3 <u>Notice to Association</u>. Upon request, each Owner shall be obligated to furnish to the Association the name and address of the holder of any Mortgage encumbering such Owner's Lot.
- 12.4 Failure of Mortgagee to Respond. Any Mortgagee who receives a written request from the Board to respond to or consent to any action shall be deemed to have approved such action if the Association does not receive a written response from the Mortgagee within thirty (30) Days of the date of the Association's request, provided such request is delivered to the Mortgagee by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested.
- 12.5 <u>Construction of Article 12</u>. Nothing contained in this Article shall be construed to reduce the percentage vote that must otherwise be obtained under the Declaration, By-Laws, or Florida law for any of the acts set out in this Article.

ARTICLE 13: DECLARANT'S RIGHTS

- 13.1 Transfer or Assignment. Any or all of the special rights and obligations of the Declarant set forth in the Governing Documents may be transferred or assigned in whole or in part to the Association or to other Persons, provided that the transfer shall not reduce an obligation nor enlarge a right beyond that which the Declarant has under this Declaration or the By-Laws. Upon any such transfer, the Declarant shall be automatically released from any and all liability arising with respect to such transferred rights and obligations. No such transfer or assignment shall be effective unless it is in a written instrument signed by the Declarant and duly recorded in the Public Records.
- 13.2 Development and Sales. The Declarant may maintain and carry on the Properties such activities as, in the sole opinion of the Declarant, may be reasonably required, convenient, or incidental to the development of the Properties and/or the construction or sale of Lots, such as sales activities, tournaments, charitable events, and promotional events, and restrict Members from using the Common Area during such activities. Such activities shall be conducted in a manner to minimize (to the extent reasonably possible) any substantial interference with the Members' use and enjoyment of the Common Area. In the event that any such activity necessitates exclusion of Owners from Common Areas, such activities shall not exceed seven (7) consecutive Days. The Declarant shall have easements over the Properties for access, ingress and egress, and conducting such activities.

In addition, the Declarant may establish within the Properties, such facilities as, in the sole opinion of the Declarant, may be reasonably required, convenient, or incidental to the development of the Properties and/or the construction or sale of Lots, including, but not limited to, business offices, signs, model units, tents, sales offices, sales centers and related parking facilities. During the Development Period, Owners may be excluded from use of all or a portion of such facilities in the Declarant's sole discretion. The Declarant and authorized Builders shall have easements over the Properties for access, ingress and egress and use of such facilities.

During the Development Period, Declarant may permit the use of any facilities situated on the Common Area by Persons other than Owners without the payment of any use fees.

- 13.3 <u>Improvements to Common Areas</u>. During the Development Period, the Declarant and its employees, agents and designees shall also have a right and easement over and upon all of the Common Area for the purpose of making, constructing and installing such improvements to the Common Area as it deems appropriate in its sole discretion.
- 13.4 <u>Additional Covenants</u>. During the Development Period, no Person shall record any declaration of covenants, conditions and restrictions, declaration of condominium, easements, or similar

instrument affecting any portion of the Properties without Declarant's review and written consent. Any attempted recordation without such consent shall result in such instrument being void and of no force and effect unless subsequently approved by written consent signed by the Declarant and recorded in the Public Records. No such instrument recorded by any Person, other than the Declarant pursuant to Section 7.4, may conflict with the Declaration, By-Laws or Articles.

- Period, the Declarant shall have the right to disapprove Actions. Until expiration of the Development Period, the Declarant shall have the right to disapprove any action, policy or program of the Association, the Board and any committee which, in the sole judgment of the Declarant, would tend to impair rights of the Declarant or Builders under the Governing Documents, or interfere with development of, construction on, or marketing of any portion of the Properties, or diminish the level of services being provided by the Association. This right to disapprove is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any right to approve or disapprove specific actions of the Association, the Board or any committee as may be granted to the Declarant in the Governing Documents:
- (a) Prior to expiration of the Development Period, the Declarant shall be given written notice of all meetings and proposed actions approved at meetings (or by written consent in lieu of a meeting) of the Association, the Board or any committee. Such notice shall be given by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal delivery at the address the Declarant has registered with the secretary of the Association, which notice complies with the By-Laws and which notice shall, except in the case of the regular meetings held pursuant to the By-Laws, set forth in reasonable particularity the agenda to be followed at such meeting. The Declarant may waive its right to receive notice in the same manner as provided in the By-Laws.
- (b) Prior to expiration of the Development Period, the Declarant shall be given the opportunity at any such meeting to join in or to have its representatives or agents join in discussion from the floor of any prospective action, policy, or program which would be subject to the right of disapproval set forth herein. The Declarant, its representatives or agents may make its concerns, thoughts, and suggestions known to the Board and/or the members of the subject committee.
- (c) No action, policy or program subject to the right of disapproval set forth herein shall become effective or be implemented until and unless the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) above have been met and the time period set forth in subsection (d) below has expired.
- (d) The Declarant, acting through any authorized representative, may exercise its right to disapprove at any time within fifteen (15) Days following the meeting at which such action was approved or, in the case of any action taken by written consent in lieu of a meeting, at any time within fifteen (15) Days following receipt of written notice of approval. No action, policy or program shall be effective or implemented if the Declarant exercises its right to disapprove. This right to disapprove may be used to block proposed actions but shall not include a right to require any action or counteraction on behalf of any committee, or the Board or the Association. The Declarant shall not use its right to disapprove to reduce the level of services, which the Association is obligated to provide or to prevent capital repairs or any expenditure required to comply with applicable laws and regulations.
- 13.6 <u>Amendments</u>. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this Declaration, no amendment to or modification of any use restrictions and rules or Design Guidelines shall be effective without prior notice to and the written consent of the Declarant, during the Development Period. This Article may not be amended without the written consent of the Declarant, during the Development Period. The rights contained in this Article shall terminate upon the expiration of the Development Period.

ARTICLE 14: SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

14.1 Surface Water Management System. Except to the extent specifically provided otherwise in this Declaration, the Association shall be responsible for operating, maintaining and monitoring all aspects of the Surface Water Management System in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Environmental Resource Permit, this Declaration, and all amendments thereto, including, without limitation, any wetland monitoring which may be required by the South Florida Water Management District pursuant to the Environmental Resource Permit, the private roadways, the Conservation Areas, control structures, drainage sub-basins/discharge limitations, and the dedicated drainage easements; and the Association shall also be the entity responsible for complying with all conditions of the Environmental Resource Permit including, without limitation, making all reports associated with the maintenance and monitoring of the Surface Water Management System and the Conservation Areas. Those portions of the Surface Water Management System not lying within the boundaries of any Lot shall be an element of the Common Area, it being the intent of this Declaration that the easements in the Surface Water Management System constituting Association Property, together with the fee title ownership of the Surface Water Management System in the Common Areas, following turnover of the Common Property to the Association, shall comprise the ownership interest of the Association in and to the Surface Water Management System. If the Association is terminated, all interests held by the Association in the Surface Water Management System, both real and personal property, shall be conveyed to the agency of local government determined to be acceptable by the South Florida Water Management District, and if not accepted thereby, then to a similar non-profit corporation for the operation and maintenance thereof. The South Florida Water Management District has the right to take enforcement action, including a civil action for an injunction and penalties against the Association to compel it to correct any outstanding problems with the Surface Water Management System facilities or in mitigation or conservation areas under the responsibility or control of the Association.

ARTICLE 15: GENERAL PROVISIONS

15.1 <u>Duration</u>. This Declaration may not be terminated for a period of twenty-five (25) years from the recording of this Declaration except as specifically provided for herein. This Declaration shall be automatically renewed and extended for successive periods of ten (10) years each, unless terminated as provided herein. This Declaration may be terminated by an instrument recorded in the Public Records of St. Lucie County, Florida, and executed by the Members representing at least 67% of the votes, together with the holder of the first Mortgagees on such Members, Lots, the South Florida Water Management District, and if prior to the expiration of the Development Period, the Declarant.

15.2 Amendment.

- (a) <u>By Declarant</u>. Until expiration of the Development Period, Declarant may unilaterally amend this Declaration for any purpose.
- (b) <u>By Members</u>. Except as otherwise specifically provided above and elsewhere in this Declaration, this Declaration may be amended only by the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination thereof, of Members holding sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total votes in the Association, and, during the Development Period, the written consent of the Declarant.

Notwithstanding the above, the percentage of votes necessary to amend a specific clause shall not be less than the prescribed percentage of affirmative votes required for action to be taken under that clause.

(c) <u>Validity and Effective Date</u>. Any amendment to the Declaration shall become effective upon recordation in the Public Records, unless a later effective date is specified in the amendment. Any procedural challenge to an amendment must be made within six (6) months of its recordation or such amendment shall be presumed to have been validly adopted. In no event shall a change of conditions or circumstances operate to amend any provisions of this Declaration. No amendment may remove, revoke, or modify any right or privilege of the Declarant without the written consent of the Declarant, or the assignee of such right or privilege.

If an Owner consents to any amendment to this Declaration or the By-Laws, it will be conclusively presumed that such Owner has the authority to consent, and no contrary provision in any Mortgage or contract between the Owner and a third party will affect the validity of such amendment.

- (d) Amendments Affecting Surface Water Management System. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth herein, any amendment that would affect the Surface Water Management System, including the water management portions of the Common Areas and any conservation areas, must be approved by the South Florida Water Management District.
- 15.3 <u>Severability</u>. Invalidation of any provision of this Declaration, in whole or in part, or any application of a provision of this Declaration by judgment or court order shall in no way affect other provisions or applications.
- 15.4 <u>Dispute Resolution</u>. It is the intent of the Association and the Declarant to encourage the amicable resolution of disputes involving the Properties and to avoid the emotional and financial costs of litigation if at all possible. Accordingly, the Association, the Declarant and each Owner covenants and agrees that it shall attempt to resolve all claims, grievances or disputes involving the Properties, including, without limitation, claims, grievances or disputes arising out of or relating to the interpretation, application or enforcement of the Governing Documents through alternative dispute resolution methods, such as mediation and arbitration. To foster the amicable resolution of disputes, the Board may adopt alternative dispute resolution procedures.

Participation in alternative dispute resolution procedures shall be voluntary and confidential. Should either party conclude that such discussions have become unproductive or unwarranted, then the parties may proceed with litigation.

- Litigation. Except as provided below, no judicial or administrative proceeding shall be commenced or prosecuted by the Association unless approved by Members holding seventy-five percent (75%) of the total votes in the Association. This Section shall not apply, however, to (a) actions brought by the Association to enforce the provisions of the Governing Documents, including, without limitation, the foreclosure of liens; (b) the imposition and collection of assessments as provided in Article 8; (c) proceedings involving challenges to ad valorem taxation; (d) counter-claims brought by the Association in proceedings instituted against it or (e) actions brought by the Association against any contractor, vendor, or supplier of goods or services arising out of a contract for services or supplies. This Section shall not be amended unless such amendment is approved by the percentage of votes, and pursuant to the same procedures, necessary to institute proceedings as provided above.
- 15.6 <u>Non-Merger</u>. Notwithstanding the fact that Declarant is the current owner of the Properties, it is the express intention of Declarant that the easements established in the Declaration for the benefit of the Properties and Owners shall not merge into the fee simple estate of individual lots conveyed by Declarant or its successor, but that the estates of the Declarant and individual lot owners shall remain as separate and distinct estates. Any conveyance of all or a portion of the Properties shall be subject to the

terms and provisions of this Declaration, regardless of whether the instrument of conveyance refers to this Declaration.

- 15.7 Grants. The parties hereby declare that this Declaration, and the easements created herein shall be and constitute covenants running with the fee simple estate of the Properties. The grants and reservations of easements in this Declaration are independent of any covenants and contractual agreements undertaken by the parties in this Declaration and a breach by either party of any such covenants or contractual agreements shall not cause or result in a forfeiture or reversion of the easements granted or reserved in this Declaration.
- with any additional recorded covenants, restrictions, and declarations, and the Association may, but shall not be required to, enforce the covenants, restrictions and declarations; provided, however, in the event of a conflict between or among this Declaration and such covenants, restrictions or declarations, and/or the provisions of any articles of incorporation, by-laws, rules and regulations, policies, or practices adopted or carried out pursuant thereto, this Declaration, the By-Laws, Articles, and use restrictions and rules of the Association shall prevail. The foregoing priorities shall apply to, but not be limited to, the lien for assessments created in favor of the Association. Nothing in this Section shall preclude any Supplemental Declaration or other recorded covenants, restrictions and declarations applicable to any portion of the Properties from containing additional covenants, restrictions or provisions which are more restrictive than the provisions of this Declaration, and the Association shall have the standing and authority to enforce the same.
- 15.9 <u>Use of the "Oak Alley" Name and Logo</u>. No Person shall use the words "Oak Alley" or the logo for "Oak Alley" or any derivative in any printed or promotional material, during the Devlopment Period, without the Declarant's prior written consent, and thereafter without the prior written consent of the Board. However, Owners may use the words "Oak Alley" in printed or promotional material where such terms are used solely to specify that particular property is located within Oak Alley, and the Association and the Declarant and its successors or assigns shall each be entitled to use the words "Oak Alley" in their names.
- 15.10 <u>Compliance</u>. Every Owner and occupant of any Lot shall comply with the Governing Documents. Failure to comply shall be grounds for an action by the Association, the Declarant, or by any aggrieved Owner(s) to recover sums due for damages or injunctive relief, or for any other remedy available at law or in equity, in addition to those enforcement powers granted to the Association in Section 4.3.
- 15.11 Notice of Sale or Transfer of Title. Any Owner desiring to sell or otherwise transfer title to a Lot shall give the Board at least seven (7) Days' prior written notice of the name and address of the purchaser or transferee, the date of such transfer of title, and such other information as the Board may reasonably require. After the transfer of title, the transferor shall continue to be jointly and severally responsible with the transferee for all obligations of the Owner of the Lot, including assessment obligations, until the date upon which such notice is received by the Board, notwithstanding the transfer of title.
- 15.12 Exhibits. Exhibit "A" attached to this Declaration is incorporated by this reference and amendment of such exhibit shall be governed by the provisions of Section 15.2. Exhibit "B", Exhibit "C" and Exhibit "D" are attached for informational purposes and may be amended as provided therein.

A. LEGAL DESCRIPTION

- B. ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
- C. BY-LAWS
- D. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE PERMIT

DEVELOPER:

OAK ALLEY DEVELOPERS, INC., a Florida corporation

By: SHERRY T. TERPENING President

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this Wday of August, 2006, by SHERRY T. TERPENING, as President of OAK ALLEY DEVELOPERS, INC., a Florida corporation. Said person did not take an oath and (check one) is personally known to me, produced a driver's license issued by a state of the United States within the last five (5) years as identification, produced other identification, to wit



Print Name: Natos na Kloas ev Notary Public - State of Florida Commission No. DOSZTY 6 My Commission Expires: 3-1210

CONSENT OF LENDER

HARBOR FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, a Federal banking corporation, ("Lender"), Mortgagee under a Mortgage dated July 22, 2003, and recorded on July 30, 2003 in the Public Records of St. Lucie County, Florida in Official Records Book 1762, Page 2990 (as amended from time to time, the "Mortgage"), for itself and its successors and assigns, approves the foregoing Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for Oak Alley (the "Declaration"). Lender agrees and acknowledges that, upon recordation of the Declaration, the restrictive covenants contained in the Declaration will run with the land which serves as security for the debt evidenced by the Mortgage and further agrees that any foreclosure or enforcement of any other remedy available to Lender under the Mortgage will not render void or otherwise impair the validity of the Declaration.

Executed this 16th day of AUGUST , 2006.

HAROR FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, a

Federal banking corporation

By: HAL ROBERTS

Title: PRESIDENT

[Bank Seal]

STATE OF FLORIDA

)ss

COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day, before me, an officer duly authorized in the State aforesaid and in the County aforesaid to take acknowledgments, the foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by J. HAL ROBERTS _____, the PRESIDENT _____ of HARBOR FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, a Federal banking corporation, freely and voluntarily under authority duly vested in him/her by said corporation. _J. HAL ROBERTS _____ is personally known to me or has produced ______ as identification.

WITNESS my hand and official seal in the County and State last aforesaid this 16th day of 2006.

MARGARET SUTHERLAND
Notary Public - State of Floride
Notary Public - State of Floride
My Commission & DD 468358
Commission & DD 468358
Bondad By National Notary Assn.

Notary Public, State of Florida at Large

MARGARET SUTHERLAND

Typed, Printed or Stamped Name of Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 09/05/2009

EXHIBIT "A"

Legal Description

OAK ALLEY, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 56, PAGE 26, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA. LESS AND EXCEPT TRACT "A" AND BLOCK "4" THEREOF.