

WAKE COUNTY, NC 161
CHARLES P. GILLIAM
REGISTER OF DEEDS
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**DECLARATION OF COVENANTS,
CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS
FOR
SWEETWATER TOWNHOMES**

**THIS DOCUMENT REGULATES OR PROHIBITS THE DISPLAY OF THE FLAG OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OR THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.**

**THIS DOCUMENT REGULATES OR PROHIBITS THE DISPLAY OF POLITICAL
SIGNS.**

Drawn by and upon recording, please return to:

Michael F. King, Esq.
K&L Gates LLP (Vault Box #123)
P.O. Box 17047, Raleigh, North Carolina 27619-7047

**DECLARATION OF COVENANTS,
CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS
FOR
SWEETWATER TOWNHOMES**

This Declaration is made as of date of its recordation in the office of the Register of Deeds for Wake County, North Carolina, by **STANDARD PACIFIC OF THE CAROLINAS, LLC**, a Delaware limited liability company ("Declarant") with reference to the following facts:

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, Declarant is the owner of certain real property commonly known as Sweetwater Townhomes subdivision ("Sweetwater Townhomes"), which real property, together with such portions of the Additional Land (as hereinafter defined), if any, as Declarant may elect to add to such property by filing of a Map thereof and supplemental filing pursuant to Article 15 hereof, shall be hereinafter referred to as **SWEETWATER TOWNHOMES** located in Wake County, North Carolina and more particularly described in Article 2 below ("Property"). Declarant intends to improve the Property as a planned residential development by developing such real property into Lots appropriate for attached single-family dwellings; and

WHEREAS, Declarant owns or may hereafter own real property in Wake County, North Carolina located proximate to the property hereinabove described (which, if applicable to this Declaration, is more particularly described on Exhibit B attached hereto and made a part hereof and referred to herein as the "Additional Land"). Declarant may, with the consent of the Master Declarant, but without the consent of any other Owner, by one or more supplemental filings pursuant to Article 15 hereof, make all or any portion of the Additional Land, if any, subject to this Declaration and a part of Sweetwater Townhomes subdivision; and

WHEREAS, Sweetwater Townhomes comprises a portion of the planned multi-use development known as Sweetwater and the Property is subject to the Declaration of Covenants, Restrictions and Easements of Sweetwater Subdivision recorded in Book 16727, Page 2604 of the Wake County Registry (as amended and supplemented from time to time, the "Master Declaration");

WHEREAS, the Master Declaration contemplates that separate easements, covenants, conditions and restrictions may be imposed with regard to the Property and that a sub-association may be established for the management and administration of the Property pursuant to a sub-association declaration; and

WHEREAS, Declarant intends to develop Sweetwater Townhomes under a common scheme and general plan for its improvement and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, for this purpose Declarant intends to (and with respect to the Additional Land, if any, reserves the right to), subject the Property as described in Article 2 below, and so much of the Additional Land, if any, as shall, from time to time, be annexed in accordance with the provisions of this Declaration, to the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, liens, charges, assessments and equitable servitudes set forth in this Declaration, for the benefit of Sweetwater Townhomes and the future owners of Lots therein; and

WHEREAS, Declarant deems it desirable for the management and administration of the planned development and for the preservation of the values and amenities of the planned development to incorporate Sweetwater Townhomes Owners Association, Inc. as a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of North Carolina for the purposes of administering the limitations, covenants, conditions,

restrictions, easements, liens and equitable servitudes created by or imposed in accordance with the provisions hereof, collecting and disbursing the assessments and charges imposed in accordance with the provisions hereof, and for providing exterior maintenance to the Lots as provided herein and for exercising such other powers as may be authorized by this Declaration, by law, or by its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, all common areas within the Sweetwater Subdivision, of which the Sweetwater Townhomes is a part, shall be maintained by the Master Association pursuant to the terms of the Master Declaration; and

WHEREAS, the Association has concurrent jurisdiction over the Property, but this Declaration and the rights and powers of the Association are subordinate to the Master Declaration and the rights and powers of the Master Association. The assessments levied against the Lots by the Association shall include assessments levied against the Property pursuant to the Master Declaration; and

WHEREAS, this Declaration creates a planned community under the North Carolina Planned Community Act (N. C. Gen. Stat. Chap. 47F).

NOW, THEREFORE, subject to the rights of Declarant established herein, Declarant hereby declares that the Property and every Lot which is a part of the Property shall be held, occupied, improved, used, mortgaged, transferred, sold, leased, rented, and conveyed subject to the following easements, liens, charges, assessments, equitable servitudes, restrictions, covenants and conditions, which are for the purpose of protecting the value, use, enjoyment and desirability of the Property, and which shall run with such real property and shall be binding on all parties having any right, title or interest in the Property or any part thereof, their heirs, successors and assigns, and shall inure to the use, benefit and enjoyment of each Owner (as hereinafter defined).

ARTICLE 1 DEFINITIONS

The following terms shall have the following meanings when used in this Declaration:

Act. "Act" means and refers to the North Carolina Planned Community Act, Chapter 47F, North Carolina General Statutes as same may be amended from time to time.

Additional Land. "Additional Land" means the real property described on Exhibit B, if any shall be attached hereto, all or any portion of which may from time to time be made subject to this Declaration pursuant to the provisions of Article 15 hereof and which, when so subjected, shall become a part of the Property.

Annual Assessment. "Annual Assessments" or "annual assessments" shall refer to assessments levied on all Lots subject to assessment under Article 9 to fund Common Expenses for the general benefit of all Lots, as more particularly described in Article 9.

Architectural Review Board. "Architectural Review Board" shall mean the committee of the Master Association created pursuant to Article 13 with authorization over new construction, modifications and alterations in the Property.

Articles. "Articles" means the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, including any amendments thereto.

Association. "Association" means Sweetwater Townhomes Owners Association, Inc., a North Carolina nonprofit corporation, its successors and assigns.

Board. "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Association.

Bylaws. "Bylaws" means the Bylaws of the Association, including any amendments thereto.

Common Expenses. "Common Expenses" shall mean the actual and estimated expenses incurred or anticipated to be incurred by the Association, including any reasonable reserve, all as may be found to be necessary and appropriate by the Board pursuant to the Governing Documents, but shall not include any expenses for initial development, original construction, installation of infrastructure, original capital improvements, or other original construction costs for improvements constructed by Declarant unless approved by a majority of the Voting Power of the Association; provided, however, the repair, maintenance and replacement of such infrastructure or other original capital improvements shall be a Common Expense. Common Expenses shall include (i) all sums lawfully assessed by the Association against its Members; (ii) the actual and estimated expenses incurred or anticipated to be incurred by the Association declared to be Common Expenses by the provisions of the Act, or any Governing Document; (iii) premiums for hazard, liability, casualty and such other insurance as the Declaration or the Bylaws may require or authorize the Association to purchase or which the Association is required by law to purchase; (iv) the actual and estimated expenses incurred or anticipated to be incurred by the Association as agreed by the Members to be Common Expenses of the Association; (v) fees for services of accountants, attorneys, engineers, managers and other professionals engaged by the Association; (vi) the costs and expenses associated the maintenance, preservation, enhancement, repair and improvement of the exterior of the dwellings and Lot improvements which the Association is required to maintain under Article 6; (vii) unpaid assessments following a foreclosure; and (viii) expenses incurred for trash removal providers engaged by the Association to serve the Property.

Completion of Sales. "Completion of Sales" means the earlier of (a) the conveyance of all Lots in the Property to purchasers other than a builder or a successor Declarant hereunder, or (b) at such time as Declarant records a Notice of Termination of Sales in the public records of the County.

County. "County" means Wake County in the State of North Carolina.

Declarant. "Declarant" means Standard Pacific of the Carolinas, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and any successor or assign to whom Declarant assigns its interest as Declarant hereunder in whole or in part by instrument recorded in the official records of the County.

Declaration. "Declaration" means this Declaration and all amendments or supplements hereto.

Governing Documents. "Governing Documents" is defined as all of the following, as the same may be amended, restated, or supplemented from time to time: Agreements with Governmental Authorities; the Master Declaration; the articles of incorporation and bylaws for the Master Association and any rules or regulations adopted by the Master Association; the Declaration; the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Association; plats (or maps, those terms being used interchangeably herein) of the Property or any portions thereof recorded in the Registry; declarations of restrictive or protective covenants applicable to the Property or any portion thereof; and documents withdrawing portions of the Property from the Declaration. In addition to the foregoing, Governing Documents includes Rules and Regulations of the Association, Board resolutions, architectural guidelines, all applicable Supplemental Declarations, and all duly adopted amendments and revisions to any of the foregoing documents.

Governmental Authority. "Governmental Authority" (or "Governmental Authorities") is defined as the Town, the County of Wake, North Carolina, the State of North Carolina, the United States of America, and all other governmental entities and quasi-governmental entities that have jurisdiction over the Property or any part thereof, and all applicable departments, divisions, sections, branches, and agencies of any of them, whichever Governmental Authority or entities is/are applicable.

Insurance Trustee. "Insurance Trustee" means a national banking association or title company licensed to do business in North Carolina as may be designated by the Association to hold and disburse funds as trustee for the Association and the Owners, as provided in this Declaration.

Legal Requirement. "Legal Requirement" is defined as and includes any duly adopted and applicable law, ordinance, regulation or requirement of the United States of America, the State of North Carolina, Town, the County, or any other governmental entity or quasi-governmental entity or agency having jurisdiction over the Property or any portion thereof, including any branch, department or division of any of the foregoing governmental and quasi-governmental entities.

Lot. "Lot" means any numbered lot or plot of land, together with any improvements thereon, which is shown upon any Map covering the Property, or a part thereof, which is not dedicated right-of-way.

Map. "Map" means a recorded boundary, recombination or subdivision plat of all or a portion of the Property recorded in the Wake County Public Registry.

Master Association. "Master Association" means the Sweetwater Property Owners Association, Inc., a North Carolina non-profit corporation, its successors and assigns.

Master Declarant. "Master Declarant" means ExperienceOne Homes, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company, and any successor or assign to whom Master Declarant assigns its interest as Master Declarant under the Master Declaration in whole or in part by instrument recorded in the official records of the County.

Master Declaration. "Master Declaration" means the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions of Sweetwater Subdivision, recorded in Book 16727, Page 2604, Wake County Registry, as amended and supplemented from time to time.

Member. "Member" means a member of the Association.

Mortgage. "Mortgage" means a mortgage or deed of trust which constitutes a first lien upon a Lot given to a bank, savings and loan association or other institutional lender for the purpose of securing indebtedness incurred to purchase or improve a Lot.

Mortgagee. "Mortgagee" means the holder of the beneficial interest in any Mortgage.

Notice and Opportunity for Hearing. "Notice and Opportunity for Hearing" means giving at least fifteen (15) days' prior notice of a proposed action and the reasons therefor, and an opportunity to be heard by the Board, orally or in writing, not less than five (5) days before the effective date of the proposed action.

Owner. "Owner" means the record owner, whether one or more persons or entities, of fee simple title to any Lot, and shall include Declarant as to any Lot owned by Declarant. "Owner" shall not include

any person or entity who holds an interest in a Lot merely as security for the performance of an obligation or as a tenant.

Person. "Person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, trustee or other legal entity capable of holding title to real property.

Phase. "Phase" means the real estate shown on each Map of the Property, including the portion of Sweetwater Townhomes described in Article 2 below, as recorded in the Wake County Public Registry.

Property. "Property" means the portion of Sweetwater Townhomes described in Article 2 below and, when and if subjected to the terms and provisions of this Declaration by Declarant acting in its sole discretion, all or any portion of the Additional Land, if any, and any other real property subjected to this Declaration by Supplemental Declaration recorded pursuant to Article 15 hereof.

Registry. "Registry" shall mean and refer to the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County, North Carolina.

Rules and Regulations. "Rules and Regulations" means reasonable and nondiscriminatory rules and regulations as may be adopted from time to time by the Association, provided notice of such rules and regulations has been given to Owners in accordance with the requirements of this Declaration.

Special Assessment. "Special Assessment" or "special assessment" shall mean and refer to assessments levied in accordance with Article 9, Sections 9.06 and 9.07 of this Declaration.

Special Declarant Rights. "Special Declarant Rights" means, without limitation, the rights as defined in Section 47F-1-103(28) of the Act for the benefit of Declarant and its appointees which are hereby reserved in favor of Declarant, including, but not limited to the following: the right to complete, repair, maintain, replace and operate improvements indicated on Maps of the Property, including, without limitation, utility infrastructure and dwellings; the right to exercise any development right; the right to maintain sales offices, management offices, construction trailers, models and signs advertising the Property; the right to use easements through any Lot or Lots for the purpose of making improvements within the Property and repairing, maintaining, replacing and operating improvements within the Property, provided that following the exercise of such rights the Property will be restored, and the right to elect, appoint or remove any officer or Board member of the Association during the period of Declarant control described in Section 8.06.

Supplemental Declaration. "Supplemental Declaration" means a supplemental declaration of covenants, conditions and restrictions which shall be recorded for the purposes of annexing additional property, including all or any portion of the Additional Land, if any, to the Property and causing such property to be subject to the scheme of covenants, conditions and restrictions contained in this Declaration, and any additional covenants, conditions and restrictions contained in the supplemental declaration of covenants, conditions and restrictions.

Town. "Town" means the Town of Apex, Wake County in the State of North Carolina.

Town Code. "Town Code" means the Code of Ordinances of Apex.

Voting Power. "Voting Power" means the total number of votes allocated to Members whose membership at the time the determination of Voting Power is made has not been suspended in accordance with the provisions of this Declaration or the Rules and Regulations. Voting Power shall be computed by

including all such Members whether or not such Members are present in person or by proxy at a meeting. All voting specifications and requirements shall apply to the entire Property.

ARTICLE 2 PROPERTY, SUBMISSION AND TERM

2.01. Property. The property subject to this Declaration and within the jurisdiction of the Association is located in Wake County, North Carolina, and is described more particularly on Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. And when and if subjected to the terms and provisions of this Declaration by Declarant acting in its sole discretion, all or any portion of the Additional Land, if any, and any other real property subjected to this Declaration by Supplemental Declaration recorded pursuant to Article 15 hereof.

2.02. Submission. The Property shall be held, conveyed, hypothecated, encumbered, sold, transferred, leased, rented, used, occupied and improved subject to each and all of the limitations, covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, liens, charges, assessments and equitable servitudes set forth herein, all of which are declared to be (a) in furtherance of a common scheme and general plan for the development, improvement and maintenance of the Property and (b) for the purpose of enhancing, maintaining and protecting the value, desirability and attractiveness of the Property. All of the limitations, covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, liens, charges, assessments and equitable servitudes set forth herein shall run with, be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Property, shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of each and every Person having or acquiring any right, title or interest in the Property, shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the successors in interest of such Persons, and shall inure to the benefit of the Association, its successors and assigns.

2.03. Incorporation of Declaration Into Instruments. Any deed or other instrument by which a Lot is conveyed shall be subject to the provisions of this Declaration and shall be deemed to incorporate the provisions of this Declaration, as amended from time to time, whether or not the deed makes reference hereto.

2.04. Term. This Declaration shall remain in force until terminated by the affirmative vote of ninety percent (90%) of the Voting Power of the Association.

ARTICLE 3 COMPLIANCE WITH MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTS

3.01. Compliance with Governing Documents. Each Owner, resident, tenant or guest of a Lot shall strictly comply with the provisions, terms, and conditions of the Governing Documents and decisions and resolutions of the Association and its duly authorized representatives, all as may be amended from time to time, and failure to comply with any such provisions, decisions or resolutions, shall be grounds for an action to recover sums due for damages or for injunctive relief.

3.02. Resolution of Conflicts Between Documents. Each Owner covenants and agrees that the administration of the Property shall be in accordance with the provisions of this Declaration, the Articles, the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations duly adopted by the Association. If there are any matters of conflict or inconsistencies in the Bylaws, Articles and this Declaration, then the provisions of this Declaration shall prevail. In the event that anything shown on a Map for all or any portion of the Property is in any way inconsistent with provisions of this Declaration, then the provisions of this Declaration shall prevail unless otherwise required by law. If a dispute arises among Owners in regard to the administration of the Property, then the provisions of this Declaration shall prevail.

ARTICLE 4 PROPERTY RIGHTS

4.01. Easements. Each Owner accepts title to its Lot subject to the following rights and restrictions:

(a) The right of the Association or its representative to enter any Lot in the case of any emergency threatening such Lot or any other Lot for the purpose of remedying or abating the cause of such emergency. Such right of entry shall be immediate.

(b) The right of the Association to enter any Lot in order to perform any maintenance, alteration, or repair required herein to be performed by the Association, and the Owner of such Lot shall permit the Association or its representatives to enter for such purpose at reasonable times and with reasonable advance notice (except with respect to grass and landscaping maintenance which shall be performed, without notice, at reasonable times as determined by the Association).

(c) The Association shall accept from Declarant any and all assignments of Declarant rights and obligations under any part or all of the Declaration, any Supplemental Declaration, any easements, any encroachment agreement with a Governmental Authority, or any other agreement with or permit issued by a Governmental Authority, a utility provider, or any other Person, and any document required to be executed with respect to the Property by a Governmental Authority, including assumption of all obligations which are contained in such documents and agreements or which are incident to such assignments, as they relate to any architectural approvals or other functions or services performed or provided by the Association.

4.02. Reciprocal Easements. There shall be reciprocal appurtenant easements between adjacent Lots for the flow of rainwater from gutters and downspouts, including, without limitation, the conveyance of stormwater through pipes and related stormwater facilities constructed by Declarant on the exterior of the units on the Lots, the repair of fences and similar improvements, lawn maintenance and trash removal (including the transport of sanitary containers for pick up by the applicable disposal service); provided, however, that no such easement shall unreasonably interfere with the use and enjoyment of any Lot. If any Lot improvement encroaches upon another Lot because of the placement, construction, reconstruction, repair, movement, settling or shifting of the improvements constructed by Declarant, or reconstructed or repaired in accordance with the provisions of this Declaration, an easement for the encroachment and for its maintenance shall exist. In addition, Declarant hereby reserves unto itself, its successors and assigns, and hereby grants to the Association and establishes a perpetual alienable easement and right on, over and through the reciprocal easements herein described for the purpose of providing services, at this time known or unknown, to the Lots, including any areas of responsibility (e.g. exteriors of the units on the Lots) that are required by the terms of this Declaration to be completed by Declarant or Association.

4.03. Utility Easements. Any easements for ownership, operation, installation, maintenance, replacement, use or repair of public utilities or drainage or detention facilities which are dedicated on any Map of the Property, reserved under any deed of any Lot, or created by Declarant in some other way shall be kept free of buildings, and within such easements no structure, fence, planting or other improvement shall be placed or permitted to remain which may damage or interfere with the ownership, operation, installation, maintenance, replacement, use or repair of such public utilities or drainage or detention facilities, or which may damage, interfere, or change the direction or flow of drainage in the easements. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, any such easement dedicated on any Map of

the Property, reserved under any deed of any Lot, or created by Declarant in some other way shall be maintained by the Owner(s) of any affected Lot(s) to the extent so encumbered by said easement, including all storm drainage facilities located within any "P. S. D. E." (public storm drainage easement) or "PDE" or "Private Drainage Easement" shown on the Map, except as otherwise indicated by such Map or unless maintenance has been assumed by the Association or any public utility or governmental entity having jurisdiction thereover. All such easements described in this Section 4.05 at all times shall be accessible to Declarant until the Property is completed and at all times shall be accessible to all Persons installing, repairing, using or maintaining such utilities and drainage facilities.

All utility lines of every type, including but not limited to water, electricity, gas, telephone, sewage and television cables, running from the main trunk line or service location to any Lot must be underground. Until the date that is one (1) year after the Completion of Sales, the Declarant reserves unto itself, its successors and assigns, a perpetual alienable easement and right on, over and under the ground to erect, maintain and use water, irrigation, electric, gas, telephone, sewage and television cables, and any other utility lines and conduits for the purpose of bringing public or other services, at this time known or unknown, to the Property on, in, under and over roads and over any Lot, and over such areas as are so identified on any Map of the Property or shown on any site plan or construction drawings for the Property on file with and approved by the Town. In addition, the Association may cut, in the above described easements, as well as anywhere else as required, at its own expense, drainways for surface water and/or to install underground storm drainage wherever and whenever such action is required by applicable health, sanitation or other state or local authorities, or in order to maintain reasonable standards of health, safety and appearance. In addition, along streets fronting property lines, Declarant reserves the right to install, maintain and repair pedestrian paths, street lights and/or street-side landscaping, which right shall automatically transfer to the Association upon the Completion of Sales. Any easements first established on property not owned by the Declarant must be consented to by the Owner of such property and evidenced on the Map or in recorded instrument creating the easement.

The Declarant may, but shall not be required to, release any of the easements reserved herein as to any Lot for which it deems such easement is unnecessary for the efficient development and operation of the Property.

4.04. No Subdivision of Lots; No Time-Sharing. Other than that effected by Declarant in preparing and recording Maps, or in revising recorded Maps, there shall be no further subdivision or partition of any Lot nor shall any Owner other than Declarant, or any other Person acquiring any interest in a Lot seek any partition or subdivision thereof unless the Association consents to such subdivision or partition as evidenced on a Map. There shall be no time-sharing or other co-ownership which allows multiple Owners sequential possessory interests in a Lot.

4.05. Declarant's Right to Change Development Plans. With the approval of the Town, Declarant shall have the right, without consent or approval of the Owners, to create Lots and dwelling units, change unit types and reallocate units within the Property, and release or withdraw real property from the development. In addition, Declarant shall have the right to change Lot designations, the boundary lines of Lots and the location of easements shown on any Map by recording a new Map showing such changes, which Map shall be executed by the Declarant and the Owner of the Lot so modified. To the fullest extent permitted by North Carolina law, each Owner covenants by acceptance of the deed or instrument by which its Lot is conveyed not to protest, challenge or otherwise object to (i) changes in uses or density of the Property or Additional Land, or (ii) modifications to the boundary lines of the Lots and/or the location of easements shown on any Maps, or (iii) changes in the site plan and other development documents filed with the Town in connection with the Property or Additional Land.

4.06. Rules and Regulations. The Association shall have the right to adopt, publish and enforce Rules and Regulations governing the Property, and the personal conduct of the Owners or other Persons, their guests, invitees, members of their families or households and tenants. Such Rules and Regulations shall be reasonable, shall not discriminate against Declarant (or have an adverse impact on Declarant or upon the sale of Lots or the construction of improvements thereon), and must be consistent with this Declaration, the Articles and the Bylaws. Rules and Regulations and any changes thereto shall be effective upon Board approval and shall be mailed or emailed to each Owner addressed to the Owner's address last appearing in the books of the Association, postage prepaid, within thirty (30) days of Board approval.

4.07. Enforcement. Unless otherwise limited by the terms and provisions of the Act, the Association shall be authorized to impose sanctions for violations of the Governing Documents. Sanctions may include reasonable monetary fines not to exceed \$100.00 per day for each day more than five days after decision that the violation occurs and suspension of the right to vote after Notice and Opportunity for Hearing (excepting drainage rights and rights of access to Lots). In addition, the Association, through the Board, after Notice and Opportunity for Hearing, shall have the right to exercise self-help to cure violations, and shall be entitled to suspend any services provided by the Association to any Owner or Lot in the event that such Owner is more than thirty (30) days delinquent in paying any assessment or other charge due to the Association. The Board shall have the power to seek relief in any court for violations of the Governing Documents or to abate nuisances.

4.08. Party Walls.

(a) General Rules of Law to Apply. Each wall which is built as part of the original construction of the homes upon the Lots and placed on the dividing line between the Lots shall constitute a party wall, and, to the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of this Section, the general rules of law regarding party walls and liability for property damage due to negligence or willful acts or omissions shall apply thereto.

(b) Sharing of Repair and Maintenance. The cost of replacement, repair and maintenance of a party wall shall be shared equally by the Lot Owners of the homes which share the wall, in proportion to such use.

(c) Destruction by Fire or Other Casualty. If a party wall is destroyed or damaged by fire or other casualty, any Lot Owner who has used the wall may restore it, and if the other Lot Owners thereafter make use of the wall, they shall contribute to the cost of restoration thereof in proportion to such use without prejudice, however, to the right of any such Lot Owners to call for a larger contribution from the others under any rule of law regarding liability for negligent or willful acts or omission.

(d) Easement and Right of Entry for Repair, Maintenance, and Reconstruction. Every Lot Owner shall have an easement and right of entry upon the Lot of any other Lot Owner to the extent reasonably necessary to perform repair, maintenance, or reconstruction of a party wall and those improvements belonging to his Lot which encroach on an adjoining Lot. Such repair, maintenance, or reconstruction shall be done expeditiously, and upon completion of the work, the Lot Owner shall restore the adjoining Lot or Lots to as near the same condition as that which prevailed prior to commencement of the work as is reasonably practicable.

(e) Weatherproofing. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, a Lot Owner who by his negligent or willful act causes the party wall to be exposed to the elements shall bear the whole cost of furnishing the necessary protection against such elements.

(f) Right to Contribution Runs With Land. The right of any Lot Owner to contribution from any other Lot Owner under this Section shall be appurtenant to the land and shall pass to such Lot Owner's successors in title.

(g) Certification by Adjoining Lot Owner that No Contribution is Due. If any Lot Owner desires to sell his Lot, he may, in order to assure a prospective purchaser that no adjoining property Lot Owner has a right of contribution as provided in this Section 4.13, request from the adjoining Lot Owner or Lot Owners a certification that no right of contribution exists, whereupon it shall be the duty of each adjoining Lot Owner to make such certification immediately upon request and without charge; provided, however, that where the adjoining Lot Owner claims a right of contribution, the certification shall contain a recital of the amount claimed.

(h) Arbitration. In the event of any dispute arising concerning a party wall or under the provisions of this Section, the same shall be settled by arbitration in the manner provided under the Uniform Arbitration Act of North Carolina, as the same may be amended from time to time.

ARTICLE 5 RESERVED

ARTICLE 6 LOT MAINTENANCE

6.01. Lot Maintenance by Association. The Association shall provide exterior maintenance upon each Lot which is subject to assessment hereunder as follows: paint, repair, replace and care for roofs, gutters, downspouts, exterior building materials [with the exception of entry doors (including garage doors) and their appurtenant hardware and frames, windows and window frames, and all exterior glass including windows and patio doors and all decks or patios, all of which shall be maintained, repaired and replaced by the Lot Owner provided that the Association shall be responsible for painting exterior doors] trees, landscaping, grass, fencing, walks, driveways (as hereinafter limited). Such maintenance as to the Lots shall also include the mowing and trimming of grass (including the grass in the rear yard of each Lot); **provided, however, it shall be the responsibility of each Lot Owner to water the grass, plants, trees and landscaping on or immediately adjacent to its Lot in areas that are not otherwise irrigated.** Such lawn maintenance shall be provided as a part of the grounds contract for the Property by a lawn company selected by the Board. Other than blowing associated with landscaping maintenance, exterior maintenance required by the Association hereunder shall not include the cleaning of patios, decks, walkways, stoops or driveways on the Lots, all of which shall be the responsibility of the Lot Owner. The determination of the need, quality, extent and cost of such maintenance and repairs shall be made by the Board of the Association, which determination shall be reasonable and made upon consistent and non-arbitrary principles adopted by the Board. In the event an Owner elects to install any landscaping improvements on its Lot, the maintenance of such landscaping improvements shall be the sole responsibility of such Owner.

6.02. Maintenance by Lot Owners. Except as provided in Section 6.01 above, all repair, maintenance and replacement of the improvements and utilities located upon a Lot Owner's Lot including the driveway and the walkway from the driveway to the front porch on each Lot and the sidewalk located within the right of way adjoining or adjacent to such Lot Owner's Lot shall be the responsibility of the Lot Owner thereof, including all replacement and repair necessitated by fire or other casualty against

which the Lot Owner is required to maintain insurance under the provisions of Article 10 hereof. The Lot Owner of each Lot shall also be responsible for all repair, replacement and clean out of sewer lines and facilities located upon such Lot Owner's Lot from the clean-out to (and including the lines and facilities servicing) the unit. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, and subject to the terms of this Declaration, a Lot Owner shall be responsible for replacement and reconstruction of improvements on his or her Lot required because of damage or destruction by fire or other casualty. Each Lot Owner shall maintain, repair and replace, at his or her expense, the foundation drain for the Lot, the foundation and structure of the dwelling on the Lot, driveways, walkways and sidewalks located on the Lot, patios, porches, doors and door frames, windows and window frames, all exterior light fixtures attached to the Lot Owner's unit and all interior portions of the improvements which shall need repair, including bathroom and kitchen fixtures, light fixtures or other electrical or plumbing equipment, utility pipes, lines and fittings serving the Lot. Further, each Lot Owner shall repair, maintain, and replace, at his or her expense, the heating and air conditioning systems servicing said Lot Owner's unit. Each Lot Owner shall be responsible for interior pest control, **and it shall be the responsibility of each Lot Owner to water the grass, plants, trees and landscaping on or immediately adjacent to its Lot in areas that are not otherwise irrigated.** In the event an Owner elects to install any landscaping improvements on its Lot, the maintenance of such landscaping improvements shall be the sole responsibility of such Owner.

6.03. Negligence. The cost of repair or replacement of any improvement to be maintained and kept in repair by the Association, which repair or replacement is required because of the act or omission of any Owner, the Owner's family, guests, or invitees, shall be the obligation of such Owner and shall be added to and become a part of the assessment to which such Lot is subject.

6.04. Right to Enter. After reasonable notice to the occupant (except in the case of an emergency in which no notice shall be required), the Association or its agents shall have access over and upon any Lot when necessary in connection with any repair, maintenance, or replacement of improvements for which the Association is responsible or for the enforcement of this Declaration, and each Owner shall accept title to his or her Lot subject to such right of access of the Association or its agents.

6.05. Easements for Governmental and Private Utility Operator Access. An unobstructed easement for ingress, egress, regress, and access to the Property is hereby established over every Lot for the benefit of applicable governmental agencies and/or private utility operators for installing, removing, and reading water meters; owning, operating, maintaining, and replacing water, sewer and drainage facilities; and acting for other purposes consistent with public safety, health and welfare, including, without limitation, law enforcement, fire protection, animal control, garbage collection, and the delivery of mail.

6.06. Sign and Landscape Easement. Declarant, for itself, its successors and assigns, including but not limited to the Association, hereby reserves easements over any portion of any Lot designated as "Private Sign & Landscape Easement," "Landscape Easement," "Sign Easement," "Landscape and Sign Easement" or other similar designation on Map(s) of the Property recorded in the public records of the County, for installation, construction, operation and maintenance of landscaping, berms, retaining walls, drainage facilities, private utilities, lighting and sprinkler systems, if any, monuments, fencing, signage and other improvements as installed by Declarant on such areas. No fences, structures, driveways, plantings, swings or any other objects, temporary or permanent, shall be permitted in such easements other than those initially installed by Declarant, or its designated successor, without Declarant's prior written approval or, after all Lots are occupied by Owners, the Association's prior written approval. The Association shall at all times have the right of access for its employees, agents and subcontractors over the above-described easement areas for the purpose of constructing, improving, repairing, replacing, landscaping, planting, mowing and otherwise maintaining the area and amenities within such easements.

The owners of any Lot containing any portion of these easements shall maintain the area not maintained or landscaped by the Declarant or the Association. The reservation of this easement imposes no obligation on Declarant, its successors and assigns, or the Association, to continue to maintain the planting, retaining walls, landscaping or other improvements located within the described easements.

6.07. Professional Management. In the event that Declarant or the Association enters into any contract with any person or entity to provide management or maintenance services for the Property, such contract shall not exceed one (1) year and shall provide that the Association shall have the right to terminate the contract for cause or without cause upon thirty (30) days' written notice without payment of a termination fee.

ARTICLE 7 USE RESTRICTIONS

In addition to the architectural control restrictions set forth in the Master Declaration and in addition to the use restrictions in the Rules and Regulations as promulgated by the Association from time to time, the following use restrictions apply to the Property:

7.01. Residential Use. Except as otherwise provided in this Declaration, Lots shall be used for residential uses for single-family attached dwelling units, including accessory structures and uses, and recreational use related to such residential use and for no other purpose. The Association shall not interfere with any Owner's freedom to determine the composition of his/her household, except that it may enforce reasonable occupancy limits. Except with respect to construction trailers or model homes which may be used or occupied by Declarant, the Lots shall not be leased or rented for hotel or transient purposes and no Owner shall use or cause or permit to be used his or her Lot for any business, commercial, manufacturing or mercantile use or purpose, or for any other nonresidential use or purpose unless it is expressly permissible for Owners to conduct certain business or commercial activities within their residence which do not conflict with local zoning ordinance restrictions and regulations. No such activity shall be conducted which shall unduly burden traffic flows within the Property or cause the parking of non-resident vehicles upon the street for unreasonable or excessive periods of time. It shall be within the discretion of the Board to determine, on a case-by-case basis, which commercial and business related activities will be compatible with the residential nature of the subdivision.

7.02. Unlawful Activity. No unlawful activity shall be conducted on any Lot or in any other part of the Property. Nothing shall be done within the Property that is an unreasonable annoyance, inconvenience or nuisance to the residents of the Property, or that unreasonably interferes with the quiet enjoyment of occupants of Lots. No doorways, walkways or streets shall be obstructed in any manner which would interfere with their use for ingress or egress in the event of fire, earthquake or other emergency.

7.03. Property Owners Parking Rights. **No vehicles of any type shall be parked on the street rights of way within the Property, except as may be permitted by the Rules and Regulations.** To enhance the streetscape in the Property, it shall be required that each Owner park its vehicles in the garage on the Lot whenever possible. All garages shall be used primarily for the storage of vehicles. No vehicles of any type shall be parked or stored on any part of a Lot other than in the garage or driveway of such Lot. No vehicles of any type shall be parked on the sidewalk or grass on any Lot. No repairs to or maintenance of any automobile or other vehicle shall be made or performed on any driveway within the Property, except in the case of emergency and except as may be permitted by the Rules and Regulations. No vehicle of any type which is abandoned or inoperative shall be stored or kept on any part any Lot, and no automobiles or other mechanical equipment may be dismantled or parts thereof stored on any said Lot. Wrecked or damaged vehicles shall only be stored in the garage on a Lot.

An Owner, his household, tenants or guests shall not park any vehicle in any undesignated portion of the Property, on the street rights of way (except as permitted in designated spaces) or on the alleyways within the Property. Owners shall be subject to sanctions if the parking regulations are violated. Sanctions may include reasonable monetary fines not to exceed \$100.00 for each day more than five days after decision that the violation occurs per day and suspension of the right to vote after Notice and Opportunity for Hearing (except drainage rights and rights of access to Lots). In addition, the Association, through the Board, after notice to the Owner, shall have the right to exercise self-help to cure violations, including the towing of vehicles at the Owner's expense. The Association shall have the right to require the Owners to register the license plate number of any vehicle of the Owner or any member of its household with the Association.

7.04. Signs and Curtains. No Owner shall place on or about any window any metallic foil or other coating, substance or material which similarly acts as a reflector of light nor shall an Owner place newspapers, bed sheets, towels or any other material not intended as a window covering in any window. Except as otherwise required by the Town, no sign of any kind shall be displayed to the public view on any Lot other than one sign of not more than nine (9) square feet advertising a Lot for sale and signs of not more than nine (9) square feet expressing support of or opposition to political candidates or other issues which will appear on the ballot of a primary, general or special election, *provided that* such political signs shall not be placed on a Lot earlier than sixty (60) days before such election and shall be removed within seven (7) days after such election. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Declarant or its agents shall have the right to erect and maintain signs of any type and size on any Lot which it owns in connection with the development and sale of the Lots.

7.05. Antennas. As provided in Article 13, except for such as are covered by, and installed in strict compliance with, the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as amended, no Owner shall construct, install, erect or maintain any outside television or radio pole or receiving antenna, including a satellite dish antenna, and no outdoor television antenna or satellite dish may be erected or installed by an Owner or permitted by an Owner to remain on his or her Lot, without the express written approval of the Architectural Review Board.

7.06. Laundry. No drying or airing of any clothing or bedding shall be permitted outdoors on any Lot and no clothes hanging devices such as lines, reels, poles, frames, etc. shall be stored or kept outdoors on any Lot.

7.07. Fences and Shrubbery. Except as may be constructed by Declarant, no fence or wall shall be erected upon any Lot unless plans therefor have been approved, in advance, by the Architectural Review Board. Chain link fencing is expressly prohibited. No hedge, shrubbery, or other planting, nor other plant screening shall be installed on any Lot except with the prior written permission of the Architectural Review Board. Fencing that would interfere with the Association's landscaping maintenance of Lots as required under this Declaration are prohibited.

7.08. Pets.

(a) No animals shall be raised, bred or kept on any Lot, except that dogs, cats, or other household pets may be kept or maintained provided that they are not kept or maintained for commercial purposes. The number of household pets generally considered to be outdoor pets, such as dogs, cats, et cetera, shall not exceed a total of three (3) in number except for newborn offspring of such household pets which are under nine (9) months of age. No animal shall be allowed if such animal constitutes an unreasonable annoyance, inconvenience or nuisance to any other Owner. If the Board receives any complaint that an animal constitutes an unreasonable

annoyance, inconvenience or nuisance, including, but not limited to a complaint that an Owner's animal is being neglected, improperly treated, or not properly restrained upon such Owner's Lot, the Board shall afford the Owner of such animal Notice and Opportunity for Hearing, and may require the complainant to present evidence of unreasonable annoyance, inconvenience or nuisance at the hearing, and if the Board finds that such animal constitutes an unreasonable annoyance, inconvenience or nuisance, the Board may require that such animal be removed from the Property. Each Owner shall also be responsible for cleaning up the feces of its animals both on its Lot and on the Property.

(b) The Board may adopt Rules and Regulations concerning animals which are more restrictive than the provisions of this Declaration, including (if not already mandated by applicable laws of the Town) rules requiring that all animals be kept on a leash when outside the Owner's Lot. The Board may adopt a rule prohibiting certain pets, which is more restrictive than the provisions of this Declaration, except that such rule shall not apply to animals residing in the Property at the time such rule is adopted. In any event, the Board at any time may require that any animal found to be an unreasonable annoyance, inconvenience or nuisance be removed as provided in Section 7.08(a).

7.09. Trash and Vegetation. No trash, rubbish, garbage or other waste material shall be kept or permitted upon any Lot, except in sanitary containers located in a garage or, if there is no garage, in an appropriate area screened and concealed from view (except for the periods immediately preceding and subsequent to pick up by the applicable disposal service). In no event shall trash containers be stored in front of the garage doors or in the alleyways. No weeds, vegetation, rubbish, debris, garbage, waste materials or materials of any kind whatsoever shall be placed or permitted to accumulate on any Lot or any portion of the Property which would render it unsanitary, unsightly, offensive, or detrimental to any property in the vicinity thereof or to the occupants of any property in such vicinity, except as is temporary and incidental to the bona fide improvement of any portion of the Property. Job site debris shall be removed from all Lots at least weekly. Grass, hedges, shrubs, vines and mass planting of any type on any Lot or any portion of the Property shall be kept trimmed and shall at regular intervals be mowed, trimmed and cut so as to appear neat and attractive. It shall be each Owner's responsibility to water the lawn and the plants on its Lot at regular intervals. Trees, shrubs, vines and plants which die shall be promptly removed. No leaves, trash, garbage or other similar debris shall be burned except as permitted by the appropriate Governmental Authority.

7.10. Nuisance. No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on in or upon any part of the Property nor shall anything be done thereon which may be or become an unreasonable annoyance, inconvenience or nuisance to the residents of the Property or unreasonably interfere with the quiet enjoyment of occupants of Lots. No Owner shall permit anything to be done or kept on his or her Lot which would result in the cancellation of insurance on said Lot or any other residence or which would be in violation of any law.

7.11. Outbuildings, Gazebo, Trampolines, Awnings, Freestanding Flagpoles, Above-Ground Pools, Yard Art and Basketball Goals. Except as may be permitted by the Architectural Review Board, no Owner shall construct, install, erect or maintain upon any Lot any outbuilding, storage shed (unless erected by Declarant), gazebo, trampoline, awning or freestanding flagpole (provided, flags may be displayed using a bracket or other approved device mounted to a dwelling so long as the size of the flag displayed does not exceed a standard size as same may be determined by the Architectural Review Board). In no event shall any outbuilding, storage shed, gazebo, trampoline or play equipment be constructed on any Lot in the front or side yards, as determined by the building lines applicable to the Lot. No above-ground pools (except for wading pools no deeper than 2 feet tall and no wider than 10 feet in diameter, which shall be regulated by the Architectural Review Board) shall be allowed or approved by

the Architectural Review Board on any Lot. Wading pools shall only be allowed during appropriate weather and must be emptied and stored when not in use. Yard art shall only be allowed by the mailbox, on the front porch of a residence or in the rear yard.

7.12. Temporary Structures. No temporary structures shall be placed upon any portion of the Property at any time; provided, however, this restriction shall not prohibit construction trailers or shelters or sheds used by Declarant or any builder or its contractors during the development of the Property or the construction of improvements or additions to any Lot. Tents (except tents as used temporarily for recreation), recreational vehicles and trailers (whether attached or unattached to the realty) may not, at any time, be used as a temporary or permanent residence or be permitted to remain on any portion of the Property.

7.13. Other Prohibitions.

(a) The construction of improvements on Lots shall comply with all applicable building, plumbing, electrical and other codes.

(b) All window treatments must be in keeping with the overall scheme and aesthetic of the Property and shall be earthtone or neutral in color (e.g. white, tan, brown). Any window treatments deemed not to be in keeping with the overall scheme and aesthetic of the Property shall be removed by the Owner in the discretion and at the direction of the Association. Sheets, towels or any other material not intended as a window covering may not be used as window treatments.

(c) No vents, pipes or other appendages may extend from the front of any dwelling on a Lot, unless screened from public view by screening material or shrubbery.

(d) Any exterior air-conditioning or heating equipment added after the completion of construction must be approved by the Association and be screened from public view by screening material or shrubbery approved by the Association.

(e) Exterior lighting shall be shielded and must be directed so as not to shine directly on another Lot.

(f) No yard art (including, without limitation, any windmills, figurines, bird houses, bird feeders, bird baths or sculptures) may be installed on a Lot.

(g) No hanging plants may be installed on a Lot.

(h) No furniture (including, without limitation, tables, chairs, and grills) may be located or stored on any front porch and no furniture may be located or stored in any grassed or landscaped areas of the yard of a Lot such as to prevent the Association from performing any maintenance of the yard as required hereunder.

7.14. Trees and Foliage. Trees measuring four (4) inches or more in diameter at a point two (2) feet above ground level and any flowering trees or shrubs above four (4) feet in height may not be removed from the Property without the prior written approval of the Association, unless such landscaping material is in the path of driveways and walkways located or to be located on any Lot. Excepted herefrom shall be damaged or diseased trees that threaten persons or property, which damaged or diseased trees shall be reported Association for review and subsequent action.

7.15. Discharge of Firearms. Hunting and trapping of wild animals, fowl and game and the discharge of firearms (including pellet guns and BB guns) and/or bows and arrows within the Property is prohibited.

7.16. Motorized Vehicles. All motorized vehicles operating within the Property must be properly muffled so as to eliminate noise which might be offensive to others. All motorized vehicles and motorized bicycles are prohibited from being used or operated anywhere other than on the streets, roads, parking lots and driveways within the Property.

7.17. Underground Storage Tanks. No underground storage tanks for natural gas, propane, gasoline, chemicals, petroleum products or any other toxic product will be allowed anywhere in the Property.

7.18. Declarant's Rights. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Article or elsewhere in this Declaration, Declarant, its agents, employees and contractors shall not be restricted or prevented by this Declaration from doing, and Declarant, its agents, employees and contractors shall have the right to do such things or take such actions as they deem necessary, advisable or convenient for completion and improvement of the Property as a residential community and for the sale, rental or other disposition of Lots in the Property. The rights of Declarant, its agents, employees and contractors shall include, without limitation the following:

(a) The right and easement of ingress in, over and upon any Lot for the purpose of performing on any part or parts of the Property acts deemed necessary, advisable or convenient for the completion and improvement of the Property as a residential community and for the sale, rental or other disposition of Lots;

(b) The right to erect, construct, maintain, demolish or remove structures and other improvements on any portion of the Property as they deem necessary, advisable or convenient for the completion and improvement of the Property as a residential community and for the sale, rental or other disposition of Lots; and

(c) The right to use Lots and improvements owned by Declarant as models, sales offices and contractor's offices and to construct and display promotional, informational and directional signs and other sales aids on or about any portion of the Property.

The rights reserved under this Section shall terminate one (1) year after the Completion of Sales. Amendment of this Section shall require the vote or written consent of seventy-five percent (75%) of the Voting Power of the Association. Further, no amendment of this Section can be made without the written approval of Declarant.

7.19. Right to Enter. Any governmental agency, including, but not limited to the Town or County, their agents and employees, shall have the right of immediate access to any Lot at all times if necessary for the preservation of public health, safety and welfare.

7.20. Master Declaration; Master Association. The Property is subject to the easements, covenants, conditions, restrictions of the Master Declaration and to the jurisdiction of the Master Association. In the event of any conflict between the Master Declaration and this Declaration, the terms and provisions of the Master Declaration shall control. Declarant hereby grants to the Master Declarant and the Master Association the non-exclusive right to enforce the terms and conditions of this Declaration to the extent necessary to comply with the terms and conditions of the Master Declaration.

ARTICLE 8 MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS

8.01. Governing Body. The Association shall be the governing body for all Owners with respect to the management, administration, maintenance, repair and replacement of the Property, as provided by the Governing Documents.

8.02. Membership. Membership in the Association shall be composed of and limited to Owners. Each Owner, including Declarant, shall automatically be a Member of the Association and entitled to vote as set forth below. Membership shall be appurtenant to and may not be separated from ownership of a Lot. Upon termination of ownership, an Owner's membership shall automatically terminate and be automatically transferred to the new Owner of the Lot. Utility providers shall be exempt from membership and all assessments, use restrictions, and architectural requirements.

8.03. Voting. The Association shall have two classes of voting membership:

Class A. Class A Members shall be all Owners with the exception of Declarant; provided, however, that Declarant shall become a Class A Member when its Class B membership ceases as provided hereinafter. Class A Members shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot owned. When more than one person holds an ownership interest in any Lot, all such persons shall be Members, but no more than one vote shall be cast with respect to any Lot. The vote for any such Lot shall be exercised as the Members holding an interest in such Lot determine among themselves. In the event of disagreement, the decision of Members holding a majority of interest in such Lot shall govern. Unless otherwise notified by a co-owner as to a dispute between the co-owners regarding their vote prior to the casting of that vote, the vote of any co-owner shall be conclusively presumed to be the majority vote of the Owners of that Lot.

Class B. Class B Member shall be Declarant which shall be entitled to ten (10) votes for each Lot owned and each Lot planned for development as shown on any preliminary subdivision plans approved by the requisite governmental authorities; provided that Declarant's Class B membership shall cease and be converted to Class A membership on the happening of either of the following events, whichever occurs earlier: (a) the Completion of Sales; or (b) ten (10) years after the first Lot is conveyed to an Owner for use as a residence.

8.04. Commencement of Voting Rights. Voting rights attributable to an ownership interest shall not vest until the Annual Assessment against that interest has been levied by the Association as provided in Article 9; provided, however, that voting rights shall be immediately vested with respect to the approval of any amendments to this Declaration.

8.05. Declarant's Voting Rights. Declarant shall have the right to cast votes attributable to Lots owned by Declarant on all matters submitted to a vote of the Members.

8.06. Control by Declarant. Notwithstanding any other language or provision to the contrary in this Declaration, in the Articles, or in the Bylaws, Declarant hereby retains the right to appoint and remove any person, whether or not an Owner, on the Board of Directors of the Association and any officer or officers of the Association until ninety (90) days after the first of the events to transpire outlined in Section 8.03 above concerning the termination of the Class B Member status of Declarant or the surrender by Declarant of the authority to appoint and remove directors and officers by an express document relinquishing such rights executed and recorded by Declarant. Upon the expiration of the

period of Declarant's right to appoint and remove directors and officers of the Association pursuant to the provisions of this Section, such right shall automatically pass to the Owners, including Declarant if it then owns one or more Lots; and a special meeting of the Association shall be called for and held within ninety (90) days from the date of the expiration of Declarant's rights hereunder. At such special meeting the Owners shall elect a new Board of Directors which shall undertake the responsibilities of running the Association and Declarant shall deliver the books, accounts, and records, if any, which they have kept on behalf of the Association as well as any agreements or contracts executed by or on behalf of the Association which may still be in effect or operation, which contracts and agreements, to the extent they are not bona fide or are unconscionable, may be terminated by the new Board of Directors upon not less than ninety (90) days notice to the other party in accordance with Section 47F-3-105 of the Act. Each Owner by acceptance of a deed to or other conveyance of a Lot vests in Declarant such authority to appoint and remove directors and officers of the Association as provided in this Section.

ARTICLE 9 COVENANTS FOR ASSESSMENTS

9.01. Covenant to Pay Assessments; Lien. Each Owner of a Lot by acceptance of a deed therefor, whether or not it shall be so expressed in such deed, covenants and agrees to pay, to the Association such Annual Assessments or charges, and such Special Assessments or charges as may be levied by the Association pursuant to the provisions of this Declaration. The amount of any such Annual Assessment or Special Assessment, plus any other charges thereon, such as interest, late charges and costs (including attorneys' fees), as such may be provided in this Declaration or the Act, shall be and become a lien upon the Lot assessed as provided in §47F-3-116 of the Act when such annual or special assessment remains unpaid for a period of thirty (30) days or longer and the Association causes to be recorded in the office of the clerk of superior court in the County a claim of lien, which claim shall state:

- (a) The amount of such assessment and such other charges thereon as may be authorized by this Declaration and the Act;
- (b) A description of the Lot against which the same has been assessed; and
- (c) The name of the record owner of the Lot assessed.

Upon payment of such assessment and charges in connection with which such notice has been so recorded, or other satisfaction thereof, the Association, at the Owner's cost and expense, shall cause to be recorded a cancellation of claim of lien stating the satisfaction and the release of the lien thereof. The lien shall have priority over all liens or claims created subsequent to the recordation of the claim of lien except for (i) tax liens for real Property taxes on the Lot, (ii) assessments on any Lot in favor of any municipal or other governmental body and (iii) the lien of any Mortgage or the lien of any other encumbrance recorded before the docketing of the claim of lien in the office of the clerk of court. The lien may be enforced by foreclosure in accordance with North Carolina law, or in any other manner permitted under the Act or by law. The Association shall have power to purchase the Lot at a foreclosure sale and to hold, lease, mortgage and convey the same. Before filing a claim of lien against any Lot, the Association shall make reasonable and diligent efforts to ensure that its records contain the Owner's current mailing address and make a written demand to the defaulting Owner for payment of the delinquent assessments, together with late charges, interest, reasonable collection costs and reasonable attorneys' fees, if any. The Owner shall be notified in writing of the Association's intent to seek payment of attorneys' fees and court costs in accordance with §47F-3-116(e1) of the Act.

The claim of lien shall be subordinate to the lien of any first mortgage or the lien of any other encumbrance recorded before the docketing of the claim of lien in the office of the clerk of court. The

sale or transfer of any Lot shall not affect the lien except that the sale or transfer of a Lot pursuant to judicial or nonjudicial foreclosure of a first mortgage or any bona fide, good faith proceeding in lieu thereof shall extinguish the lien as to payments which became due prior to the sale or transfer. Such unpaid Assessments shall be deemed Common Expenses collectible from all Owners, including the purchaser at foreclosure. In addition, no sale or transfer shall relieve the Lot from liability for any assessments thereafter becoming due or from the lien thereof.

9.02. Personal Obligation. Each Annual Assessment or Special Assessment, together with any late charges, interest, collection costs and reasonable attorneys' fees, shall be the personal obligation of each person or entity, other than any Mortgagee, who held an ownership interest in the Lot at the time such assessment was levied. If more than one Person held an ownership interest in the Lot at such time, the personal obligation to pay such assessment or installment respecting such Lot shall be both joint and several. No Owner may exempt himself or herself from payment of assessments by abandonment or leasing of his or her Lot.

9.03. Use of Assessments. Annual Assessments or Special Assessments paid by Declarant and other Owners shall be used to pay the Common Expenses of the Association. The foregoing is intended as an authorization of the Association and shall not be construed to require expenditure of Association funds for any particular purpose.

9.04. Reserve Funds. The Board shall establish and maintain reserves in accordance with standard accounting practices and procedures for capital improvement replacements and maintenance and the initial budget of the Association. Each budget subsequently adopted by the Board shall provide for funds to be placed in reserves in the discretion of the Board unless a different level of reserves is approved by the vote or written consent of a majority of the Voting Power of the Association. Funds deposited in reserve for a particular purpose shall be held for that purpose and shall not be expended for any other purpose without the vote or written consent of a majority of the Voting Power of the Association, except that if the Board determines that funds held in reserve for a particular purpose exceed an amount reasonably required as a prudent reserve for that purpose, then, without the vote or written consent of Members, the excess may be allocated to any other reserve fund established by the initial budget of the Association and expended for the purpose for which such other reserve fund has been established.

9.05. Regular Annual Assessments.

(a) The Annual Assessment for each Lot owned by a Class A Member for the first assessment year shall be a maximum of \$1,740.00 (\$720.00 for the Master Declaration plus \$1,020.00 for this Declaration); provided, however, that if the first assessment year shall have fewer than twelve months, the foregoing amounts shall be proportionately reduced. The Annual Assessment for each Lot owned by a Class B Member shall be zero; provided, however, Declarant shall be obligated to fund any budget deficit pursuant to Section 9.12. From and after the first year of Annual Assessments, the Board shall adopt a proposed budget and fix the amount of the Annual Assessment as to each Lot for the then current calendar year, and shall thereafter adopt a proposed budget for each subsequent calendar year at least thirty (30) days prior to January 1 of such calendar year. The Association shall send written notice of the amount of the Annual Assessment and a summary of the proposed budget, as well as the amount of the payment due, to each Owner within thirty (30) days after the adoption by the Board of such budget. To the extent required by North Carolina General Statutes 47F-3-103(c) or other applicable law, such notice shall include notice of a meeting of the Members to consider ratification of the budget, including a statement that the budget may be ratified without a quorum. If such a meeting is required by N.C. General Statutes 47F-3-103(c), or other applicable law, the Board shall set a

date for a meeting of the Members to consider ratification of the budget to be held not less than ten (10) nor more than sixty (60) days after mailing of the summary and notice. If such meeting is required as set forth above, there shall be no requirement that a quorum be present at the meeting. If the proposed budget to be voted on at any such meeting is within the maximum increase limits set forth in subsection (b) below, the budget is ratified unless at such meeting Members exercising all of the Voting Power in the Association reject the budget. If the proposed budget to be voted on at any such meeting exceeds the maximum increase limits set forth in subsection (b) below, the budget is ratified unless at such meeting Members exercising a majority of the Voting Power in the Association reject the budget. The failure of the Association to send, or of a Member to receive, such notice shall not relieve any Member of the obligation to pay Annual Assessments.

(b) From and after the first year of Annual Assessments, the Board, by a vote in accordance with the Bylaws, without a vote of the Members (unless required under N.C. General Statutes 47F-3-103(c) or other applicable law, in which case the procedures set forth in subsection [a] above shall apply), may increase the Annual Assessment each year by a maximum amount equal to the previous year's Annual Assessment times ten percent (10%).

(c) From and after the first year of Annual Assessments, the maximum Annual Assessment may be increased above the maximum amount set forth above by a vote of a majority of the Voting Power, plus the written consent of Declarant (so long as Declarant owns any part of the Property).

(d) The Board may fix the Annual Assessment at an amount not in excess of the maximum set forth above (the "Maximum Annual Assessment"), subject to the procedures set forth in subsection (a) above if applicable. If the Board shall levy less than the Maximum Annual Assessment for any calendar year and thereafter, during such calendar year, determine that the important and essential functions of the Association cannot be funded by such lesser assessment, the Board may, by vote in accordance with the Bylaws, levy a supplemental Annual Assessment ("Supplemental Annual Assessment"), subject to the procedures set forth in subsection (a) above, if applicable. In no event shall the sum of the Annual Assessments and Supplemental Annual Assessments for any year exceed the applicable Maximum Annual Assessment for such year other than as set forth herein.

9.06. Special Assessments. In addition to the Annual Assessments authorized herein, the Board may levy, in any assessment year, special assessments against all Lot Owners applicable to that year only for the purpose of defraying in whole or in part the costs and expenses associated with the maintenance, preservation, enhancement, repair and improvement of the exterior of the dwellings and Lot improvements which the Association is required to maintain under Article 6 in connection with the maintenance of Lots; provided, however, Special Assessments which exceed five percent (5%) of the budgeted gross expenses of the Association for that fiscal year may not be levied without the vote or written consent of a majority of Members.

9.07. Assessment as Remedy. After Notice and Opportunity for Hearing, the Board, without the vote or written consent of Members, may levy a special assessment against an Owner as a remedy to reimburse the Association for costs (including attorneys' fees) incurred in bringing the Owner, his or her Lot or his or her residence into compliance with the provisions of the Governing Documents.

9.08. Allocation of Assessments. All Annual Assessments and Special Assessments shall be levied equally against all Owners, except:

(a) Annual Assessments levied on Lots owned by a Class A Member shall be a maximum of \$1,740.00 per annum for the first assessment year as adjusted for subsequent years in accordance with Section 9.05; Annual Assessments levied on Lots owned by a Class B Member shall be zero; provided, however, Declarant shall be obligated to fund any budget deficit pursuant to Section 9.12.

(b) Special Assessments shall be in the ratio of ten (10) to one (1) for Lots owned by Class A Members and Class B Members, respectively.

9.09. Commencement of Assessments; Time of Payment. The Annual Assessments provided for herein shall commence as to all Lots in Sweetwater Townhomes on the first day of the month next following the conveyance of the first Lot improved with a dwelling to a purchaser (other than a successor Declarant) for use as a residence. The first assessment year shall be the period commencing on the date Annual Assessments commence and ending on the December 31 next following. The Annual Assessment for the first assessment year shall be prorated from the amounts fixed by the Board for a full twelve-month year, based on the number of months to be contained in the first assessment year. Subsequent assessment years shall be each successive calendar year; provided, however, that at any time the Board may change the assessment year to correspond to a fiscal year selected by the Board. Assessments of Lots within each Phase of the Property which is annexed in accordance with the provisions of Article 15 below shall commence on the first day of the month next following the conveyance of the first Lot improved with a dwelling to a purchaser (other than a successor Declarant) for use as a residence.

Owners shall pay assessments in the manner and on the dates the Board establishes. The Board may require advance payment of assessments at closing of the transfer of title to a Lot and may impose special requirements for Owners with a history of delinquent payment. If the Board so elects, assessments may be paid in annual, semiannual, quarterly or monthly installments. Unless the Board otherwise provides, the Annual Assessments shall be due and payable in four (4) quarterly installments. If any Owner is delinquent in paying any assessments or other charges levied on his Lot, the Board may require that the outstanding balance on all assessments be paid in full immediately.

9.10. Revised Assessments. Subject to the provisions of Section 9.05, if at any time during the course of any year the Board shall deem the amount of the Annual Assessment to be inadequate or over adequate by reason of a revision of its estimate of either expenses or income or otherwise, the Board shall have the right, at a regular or special meeting, to revise the Annual Assessment for the balance of the assessment year. Any such revised assessment shall become effective on the first day of the month next following the date of adoption, and additional amounts payable shall be due (or refunds of overages shall be made by the Association) at such time as determined by the Board.

9.11. Delinquent Assessments; Fines. Any assessment not paid within thirty (30) days after the due date shall be delinquent. The Board may require that any delinquent assessment bear a late charge to cover administrative expenses incurred as a result of the late payment of the assessment. Late charges on delinquent assessments and fines levied as provided in Section 4.07 may be imposed in an amount not to exceed the greater of (i) ten percent (10%) of the amount of the unpaid Assessment, or (ii) twenty dollars (\$20.00) per month. The Association may bring a legal action against the Owner personally obligated to pay a delinquent assessment or fine and, after Notice and Opportunity for Hearing, the Association may suspend a delinquent Owner's membership rights in the Association (except drainage rights and rights of access to Lots) while the assessment or fine remains unpaid. In any legal action to enforce payment of an assessment or fine, the Association shall be entitled to recover interest, costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

9.12. Declarant's Obligation to Fund Budget Deficits. Declarant shall satisfy all obligations for Annual Assessments on Lots which it owns by funding the budget deficit during the period of Declarant control described in Section 8.06. The budget deficit is the difference between the amount of Annual Assessments levied on Class A Member owned Lots, plus any other income received during the calendar year, and the amount of the Association's actual expenditures during the calendar year, including reserve contributions. Upon the expiration of the period of Declarant control, Annual Assessments on Lots owned by Declarant shall be zero and, in the event a deficit results, the Association, and not Declarant, shall be responsible for such deficit and its funding.

Declarant may fund the deficit in the form of cash or by "in kind" contributions of services or materials, or by a combination of these. Said "in kind" contracts or arrangements may be terminated upon ninety (90) days notice by the Association at any time after the termination of the Declarant control period as described in Section 8.06.

Declarant's obligation to fund the budget deficit during the period of Declarant control, together with interest thereon and costs of collections, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees, are hereby declared to be a charge and continuing lien upon each Lot owned by Declarant. Said lien shall be effective only if its obligation remains unpaid for a period of thirty (30) days or longer and from and after the time of the recordation in the official records of the County of a notice of assessment in accordance with Section 9.1. Upon full payment of all sums secured by any such lien, Declarant shall be entitled to a satisfaction of the notice of assessment in recordable form in accordance with Section 9.1.

9.13. Operating Expense Contribution. Notwithstanding any provision contained herein or in any other document or instrument to the contrary, every Owner (other than a successor Declarant) who purchases a Lot from Declarant shall pay to the Association at the time of the closing of such purchase a non-refundable operating contribution fee in the amount of \$600.00, of which amount \$300.00 shall be paid to the Association as a contribution towards operating expenses and/or for the maintenance, repair, construction and replacement of capital assets and improvements to the Property and \$300.00 shall be paid to the Master Association as a contribution towards operating expenses and/or for the maintenance, repair, construction and replacement of the Properties (as such terms are defined in the Master Declaration). It is expressly provided herein that such operating contributions shall not be held for the benefit of the Owner paying such amount at closing, shall not be required to be held in an interest bearing account, and may be commingled by the Association with its other funds, and shall not reduce an Owner's obligation to pay Annual Assessments or Special Assessments. The Board may adjust the amount of the operating contribution fees from time to time.

9.14. Certification of Assessments. The Association, upon written request, shall furnish to an Owner of a Lot or the Lot Owner's authorized agents a statement setting forth the amount of unpaid assessments and other charges against such Lot. The statement shall be furnished within ten (10) business days after receipt of the request and is binding on the Association, the Board, and every Owner of a Lot. The Association may charge a reasonable fee for providing such statement.

9.15. Surplus Funds. The Association shall not be obligated to spend in any year all the Assessments and other sums received by it in such year, and may carry forward as surplus any balances remaining. The Association shall not be obligated to reduce the amount of the Annual Assessment in the succeeding year if a surplus exists from a prior year, and the Association may carry forward from year to year such surplus as the Board in its discretion may determine to be desirable for the greater financial security of the Association and the accomplishment of its purposes.

9.16. Master Association Assessments. The Lots shall be subject to all assessments levied by the Master Association pursuant to the provisions of the Master Declaration, including, without

limitation, the Annual Assessments, Special Assessments and Supplemental Assessments (as more fully described in the Master Declaration), which assessments and charges shall be billed to the Association and included in the Annual Assessments collected under this Declaration and paid by the Association to the Master Association. The amount of any such assessments under the Master Declaration plus any other charges thereon, such as interest, late charges and costs (including attorney's fees), as such may be provided in the Master Declaration, shall be and become a lien upon the Lot assessed when the Master Association causes to be recorded in the official records of the County a notice of assessment all in accordance with the provision of the Master Declaration.

ARTICLE 10 INSURANCE

10.01. Insurance Requirements under the Act. Section 47F-3-113 of the Act requires certain insurance to be carried by the Association and provides for the distribution of insurance proceeds, requires certain provisions for property and liability insurance and governs repairs made with insurance proceeds. In the event the insurance requirements of this Article 10 conflict with, or fail to incorporate, the provisions of Sections 47F-3-113 of the Act, the provisions of the Act shall apply and govern. The establishment of an amount of insurance greater than required by the Act is not a conflict.

10.02. By Owners. Each Owner shall procure and maintain fire and extended coverage insurance as follows:

(a) Coverage. Each Lot and improvements upon a Lot shall be insured in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) insurable replacement value. Such coverage shall provide protection against:

- (i) Loss or damage by fire and other hazards, including extended coverage, vandalism and malicious mischief;
- (ii) Such other risks as from time to time shall be customarily covered with respect to buildings on the land; and
- (iii) Such policies shall contain clauses providing form waiver of subrogation.

(b) Liability. Public liability insurance shall be secured by each Owner with limits of liability of no less than Three Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$300,000.00) per occurrence.

All such policies shall name the Declarant and the Association as additional insureds as their interests appear and copies of said policies and renewals thereof shall be furnished to the Declarant and the Association. Upon failure by any Owner to promptly obtain the required coverage, naming the Declarant and the Association as additional insureds, or to pay the premiums due on such policy, the Association may, but is not required to, obtain the required coverage, naming the Declarant and the Association as additional insureds, and add the cost of the premium and all other costs of obtaining such coverage to the annual assessment against the subject Lot. Such cost shall be due and payable on or before the first day of the calendar month following payment of same by the Association.

Owners may, at their option, obtain insurance coverage at their own expense upon their own personal property and for their personal liability and living expense and such other coverage as they may desire.

10.03. By Association. The Association shall procure and maintain insurance coverage as follows:

(a) Coverage. All personal property owned by the Association shall be insured in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) insurable replacement value as determined annually by the Association with the assistance of the insurance company providing coverage. Such coverage shall provide protection against:

- (i) Loss or damage by fire and other hazards, including extended coverage, vandalism and malicious mischief;
- (ii) Such other risks as from time to time shall be customarily covered with respect to buildings on the land; and
- (iii) Such policies shall contain clauses providing form waiver of subrogation.

(c) Liability. Public liability insurance (including contractual liability coverage) shall be secured by the Association with limits of liability of no less than One Million and No/100 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence and Two Million and No/100 Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) aggregate for bodily injury and property damage, including loss of use, and shall include an endorsement to cover liability of the Owners as a group to a single Owner. If necessary, Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability insurance shall be secured by the Association so as to comply with the laws and regulations of the State of North Carolina. There shall also be obtained such other insurance coverage as the Association shall determine from time to time to be desirable and necessary, including, but not limited to, directors and officers errors and omissions insurance coverage. The Association shall cause Declarant to be named as additional insureds on the above-referenced insurance policies.

(d) Premiums. Premiums for insurance policies purchased by the Association shall be paid by the Association as a Common Expense and shall be included as part of the Annual Assessment described in Article 9 above.

(e) Proceeds. All insurance policies purchased by the Association shall be for the benefit of the Association and the Owners and their mortgagees, as their interests may appear, and shall provide that all proceeds thereof shall be payable to the Insurance Trustee under this Declaration. The sole duty of the Insurance Trustee shall be to receive such proceeds as are paid and to hold the same in trust for the purpose stated herein or stated in the Bylaws and for the benefit of the Owners.

(f) Subrogation. Each insurer shall waive its right to subrogation under any policy maintained pursuant to this Section 10.03 against any Owner or member of Owner's household.

(g) Act or Omission of Owner. No act or omission of any Owner, unless such Owner is acting within the scope of the Owner's authority on behalf of the Association, will preclude recovery under any of the policies maintained pursuant to this Section 10.03.

(h) Other Insurance. If, at the time of a loss, there is other insurance in the name of an Owner covering the same risk covered by the Association's policy, the Association's policy shall provide primary insurance.

(i) Issuance of Certificates; Cancellation. Any insurer that has issued an insurance policy under this Section shall issue certificates or memoranda of insurance to the Association and, upon written request, to any Owner or Mortgagee. Any insurer issuing an insurance policy under this Section 10.03

may not cancel or refuse to renew the policy until thirty (30) days after notice of the proposed cancellation or non renewal has been mailed to the Association, each Owner and each Mortgagee to whom certificates or memoranda of insurance have been issued at their respective last known addresses.

10.04. Distribution of Insurance Proceeds. Proceeds of insurance policies received by the Insurance Trustee shall be distributed in the following manner:

(a) Expense of the Trust. All expenses of the Insurance Trustee shall be first paid or provisions made therefore.

(b) Reconstruction or Repair. Any remaining proceeds shall be distributed to the beneficial Owners as provided in Section 10.03(e)(ii).

10.03. Distribution of Insurance Proceeds. Proceeds of insurance policies received by the Insurance Trustee shall be distributed in the following manner:

(a) Expense of the Trust. All expenses of the Insurance Trustee shall be first paid or provisions made therefore.

(b) Reconstruction or Repair. Proceeds on account of damage to Lots shall be paid to defray the cost of repair to the Lots. Any proceeds remaining after defraying such costs shall be distributed to the beneficial Owners as provided in Section 10.03(e)(ii).

10.05. Fidelity Insurance or Bond. All persons responsible for or authorized to expend funds or otherwise deal in the assets of the Association or those held in trust, shall first be bonded by a fidelity insurer to indemnify the Association for any loss or default in the performance of their duties in an amount equal to six (6) months' assessments, plus reserves accumulated.

10.06. Obligation to Rebuild. Any portion of the Property for which insurance is required under Section 10.02 shall be promptly and diligently repaired, replaced, and restored by the Owner thereof, unless (i) this Declaration is terminated, or (ii) repair or replacement would be illegal under any state or local health or safety statute or ordinance.

Any portion of the Property for which insurance is required under Section 10.03 of this Article which is damaged or destroyed shall be repaired or replaced promptly by the Association unless (i) this Declaration is terminated, (ii) repair or replacement would be illegal under any state or local health or safety statute or ordinance, or (iii) the Owners decide not to rebuild by an eighty percent (80%) vote of the Voting Power of the Association. The cost of repair or replacement in excess of insurance proceeds and reserves is a common expense, and the cost thereof may be recovered by one or more Special Assessments levied by the Board against all Owners as provided herein.

ARTICLE 11 DAMAGE AND DESTRUCTION

11.01. Damage to Lots. Restoration and repair of damage to any Lot (including, in accordance with the definition of "Lot," the improvements thereon) shall be made by and at the expense of the Owner thereof.

ARTICLE 12 EMINENT DOMAIN

12.01. Eminent Domain. Notwithstanding any provision contained herein to the contrary, in the event of a taking of all or any portion of a Lot by eminent domain, or by conveyance in lieu thereof, the awards paid on account thereof shall be applied in accordance with Section 47F-1-107 of the Act.

ARTICLE 13 ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL

13. Architectural Control. No construction or site preparation on any Lot, no change in grade or slope or drainage patterns of any Lot, no construction or placement of any building or exterior additions or alterations to any building situated upon a Lot, no removal of trees (except for dead, dying and diseased trees) and no construction of or changes or additions to any other structure or improvement on a Lot shall be commenced nor shall any of the same be placed, maintained or allowed to remain, on any Lot until the Architectural Review Board (as defined herein and in the Master Declaration) has approved the plans and specifications therefor and the location of such improvements and all requirements in Article VII of the Master Declaration regarding architectural control have been followed.

ARTICLE 14 MORTGAGEE PROTECTION

14.01. Interpretation. In the event any provision of this Article 14 is inconsistent with or contrary to any other provision of this Declaration, the provisions of this Article 14 shall control.

14.02. Notices. Any Mortgagee of any Lot, by written notice to the Association setting forth the Lot encumbered, the Owner thereof and the address to which notices may be sent, may request and thereby be entitled to receive written notice from the Association of (a) any default which is outstanding for sixty (60) days or longer by the Owner of such Lot in the performance of his or her obligations under or in compliance with the provisions of the Governing Documents, (b) if known to the Association, any substantial damage to or destruction of a Lot, including the improvements located thereon, and (c) any proposed or threatened taking by power of eminent domain of any portion thereof or of any Lot or portion thereof.

14.03. Mortgagee's Right to Information. Upon written request to the Association, a Mortgagee is entitled to: (a) inspect the books and records of the Association during normal business hours; (b) receive an annual financial statement of the Association within ninety (90) days following the end of any fiscal year of the Property; and (c) receive written notice of all meetings of the Association and to designate a representative to attend all such meetings.

14.04. Damage and Destruction Rights. In the event of substantial damage to or destruction of any Lot or improvements to a Lot no provision of any document establishing the Property shall entitle the Owner of a Lot or other party to priority over such Mortgagee with respect to the distribution to such Owner of any insurance proceeds.

14.05. Condemnation Rights. If any Lot or portion thereof is made the subject matter of any condemnation proceedings or is otherwise sought to be acquired by a condemning authority, no provision of any document establishing the Property shall entitle the Owner of a Lot or other party to priority over such Mortgagee with respect to the distribution to such Owner of the proceeds of any award or settlement.

14.06. Right of First Refusal. Any right given by an Owner of a Lot to any third person to purchase such Lot before it is offered for sale or sold to any other person (such right commonly known as a "right of first refusal") shall not be binding upon or enforceable against any Mortgagee acquiring such Lot pursuant to exercise of remedies provided for in the Mortgage, including foreclosure by judicial action or exercise of a power of sale, or by acceptance of a deed or assignment in lieu of foreclosure.

14.07. Subordination. No provisions contained in this Declaration shall defeat or render invalid the lien of any Mortgage which is made in good faith and for value. The lien of the assessments provided for herein shall be subordinate to the lien of any Mortgage recorded prior to the date any such assessment becomes due. This subordination shall apply only to assessments on a Lot which have become due and payable prior to a sale or transfer of such Lot pursuant to a decree of foreclosure or exercise of power of sale. Any Mortgagee who acquires title to or comes into possession of a Lot pursuant to exercise of remedies provided for in the Mortgage, including foreclosure by judicial action or exercise of a power of sale, and any purchaser at a foreclosure sale, shall take the Lot free of any claims for unpaid assessments or charges against the Lot which have accrued prior to the time such Mortgagee or purchaser acquires title to or comes into possession of the Lot; provided, however, this exception shall not be applicable to any claim for assessments or charges levied by the Association against all Lots for the purpose of recovering any revenue lost by reason of the nonpayment of past due assessments upon such Lot; and provided further, that except as otherwise provided in this Section, all of the limitations, restrictions, covenants, conditions, easements, liens, charges, assessments, and equitable servitudes contained herein shall be binding upon any Owner whose title is derived through foreclosure sale, trustee's sale or otherwise. Except as provided above, the sale, transfer or conveyance of title to a Lot shall not relieve a selling Owner from personal liability for any assessments which became due and payable prior to such sale, transfer or conveyance, nor relieve such Lot from a duly recorded lien for any such prior unpaid assessment.

14.08. Reserved.

14.09. Consent of Mortgagee. With respect to any provision in this Declaration requiring the consent or written approval of a Mortgagee, any Mortgagee who does not respond within thirty (30) days' request by the Association for such consent or written approval shall be deemed to have approved such request.

ARTICLE 15 ANNEXATION

15.01. Right to Annex. Subject to the approval of the Master Association, Declarant shall have the right to annex to Sweetwater Townhomes subdivision, thereby bringing within the scheme of this Declaration and subject to the jurisdiction of the Association, part or all of the Additional Land, if any. Annexation of any real property other than Declarant's annexation of the Additional Land shall require the approval of the Master Association and the vote or written consent of not less than sixty seven percent (67%) of the Voting Power of the Association. Annexation of additional property may be accomplished in Phases. Consent of the Master Association required for any annexation may be conditioned on, in the direction of the Master Association, the annexation of the property into the Master Association or imposition on the annexed property of fees and restrictions identical or similar to those found in the Master Declaration, Master Association Bylaws, rules and regulations adopted by the Master Association or any of the foregoing. As used herein, approval of the Master Association shall mean the vote or written consent of a majority of the directors of the Master Association.

15.02. Procedure for Annexation. Any annexation shall be made by recordation of a Supplemental Declaration covering the real property to be annexed. The Supplemental Declaration shall describe the real property to be annexed and state that annexation is being made pursuant to this Declaration for the purpose of extending the jurisdiction of the Association to cover the property described therein. The Supplemental Declaration may contain such complementary additions and modifications to the terms of this Declaration as may be necessary or desirable to reflect the different character, if any, of the Phase being annexed and as are not inconsistent with the general scheme of this Declaration. Annexation shall be effective upon recordation of the Supplemental Declaration and thereupon the real property described therein shall be subject to all of the provisions of this Declaration, to the extent made applicable by the Supplemental Declaration, and to the jurisdiction of the Association pursuant to the terms of this Declaration, the Articles, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations.

15.03. Annexed Property. Each Owner of a Lot in an annexed Phase automatically shall be a Member of the Association and such Owners and annexed real property shall be subject to assessment by the Association for the benefit of the Property or any part thereof. Assessments of Lots in an annexed Phase shall commence upon the last to occur of: (a) commencement of Annual Assessments for the Property, and (b) the first day of the month next following the first conveyance of a Lot in such Phase to a purchaser, as provided in Section 9.09. The Association shall have the duties, responsibilities and powers set forth in this Declaration, the Articles and Bylaws with respect to annexed real property. Except as may otherwise be expressly provided in this Declaration or any Supplemental Declaration, the Property shall be managed and governed by the Association as an entirety. Assessments collected from Owners in the Property may be expended by the Association anywhere in the Property without regard to the particular Phase, area or subdivision from which such assessments came.

ARTICLE 16

INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The Association shall indemnify any and all persons who may serve or whom have served at any time as directors or officers of the Association against any and all expenses, including amounts paid upon judgments, counsel fees and amounts paid in settlement (before or after suit is commenced), actually and necessarily incurred by such persons in connection with the defense or settlement of any claim, action, suit or proceeding in which they, or any of them, are made parties, or a party, which may be asserted against them or any of them, by reason of being or having been directors or officers or a director or an officer of the Association, except in relation to matters as to which any such director or officer or former director or officer or person shall be adjudged in any action, suit, or proceeding guilty of willful and intentional negligence or misconduct in the performance of his or her duties to the Association. Provided, however, that in the event of a settlement, the indemnification herein shall apply only when the Board of Directors approves such settlement and reimbursement as being in the best interest of the Association.

The provisions hereof shall be in addition to and not exclusive of any and all other rights to which any director or officer may otherwise be entitled under any law, Bylaw, agreement, vote of Association Members or otherwise. In the event of death of any officer or director, the provisions hereof shall extend to such person's legal heirs, representatives, successors and assigns. The foregoing rights shall be available whether or not such person or persons were in fact directors or officers at the time of incurring or becoming subject to such expenses, and whether or not the proceeding, claim, suit or action is based on matters which antedate the adoption of this Declaration.

ARTICLE 17 EXCULPATION

It is expressly understood and agreed that nothing contained in this Declaration shall be interpreted or construed as creating any liability whatsoever, directly or indirectly, against Declarant or any of its officers, members, managers, employees, agents, attorneys, heirs, executors, legal representatives, successors or assigns (collectively, the "Declarant Related Parties") for monetary relief or damages. In particular, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, if any proceeding shall be brought to enforce the provisions of this Declaration, the party instituting such proceeding shall not be entitled to take any action to procure any money judgment against any of the Declarant Related Parties.

ARTICLE 18 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

18.01. Conflict with the Act; Conflict with Town Code; Conflict with Master Declaration; Severability. Should any of the terms, conditions, provisions, paragraphs, or clauses of this Declaration conflict with any provisions of the Act, the provisions of the Act shall control unless the Act permits the Declaration to override the Act in which event the Declaration shall control. Should any of the terms, conditions, provisions, paragraphs, or clauses of this Declaration conflict with any provisions of the Town Code, the provisions of the Town Code shall control unless the Town Code permits the Declaration to override the Town Code in which event the Declaration shall control. Should any of the terms, conditions, provisions, paragraphs, or clauses of this Declaration conflict with any provisions of the Master Declaration, the provisions of the Master Declaration shall control unless the Master Declaration permits the Declaration to override the Master Declaration in which event the Declaration shall control. The invalidity of any covenant, restriction, condition, limitation, provision, paragraph or clause of this Declaration, or any part of the same, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, shall not impair or affect in any manner the validity, enforceability or affect of the rest of this Declaration, or the application of any such covenant, restriction, condition, limitation, provision, paragraph or clause to any other person or circumstance.

18.02. Interpretation of Declaration. Whenever appropriate, singular may be read as plural, plural may be read as singular, and the masculine gender may be read as the feminine or neuter gender. Compound words beginning with the prefix "here" shall refer to this entire Declaration and not merely the part in which they appear.

18.03. Law Controlling. This Declaration shall be construed and controlled by and under the laws of the State of North Carolina.

18.04. Power to Settle Claims. The Board shall have the power and authority to compromise, settle, release and otherwise adjust claims, demands, causes of action and liabilities in favor of the Association and the Owners, on behalf of the Association and Owners, as the case may be, provided any such claim, demand, cause of action or liability arises out of or relates to a condition or defect common to all or a majority of the Lots or improvements constructed thereon, and the Association shall have the right and the power to make and receive all payments or other consideration necessary therefor or in connection therewith. For such purposes, the Board shall be, and hereby is, irrevocably appointed attorney in fact to act on behalf of all Owners upon such terms and conditions and for such consideration as may be approved by a majority of the Board.

18.05. Independence of Provisions. The provisions of this Declaration shall be deemed independent and severable. Invalidation or partial invalidation of any provision of this Declaration by

judgment or court order shall not affect any other provision of this Declaration, and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

18.06. Notices. Notices shall be in writing and shall be addressed as follows: (a) if to an Owner, to the address of his or her Lot as listed in the County Tax Office; (b) if to Declarant, to 1100 Perimeter Park Drive, Suite 112, Morrisville, North Carolina 27560; and (c) if to the Association, to 1100 Perimeter Park Drive, Suite 112, Morrisville, North Carolina 27560. The Association may designate a different address for notices by giving written notice of such change of address to all Owners and to Declarant. Declarant may designate a different address for notices by giving written notice of such change of address to all Owners and to the Association. Any Owner may designate a different address for notices by giving written notice of such change of address to the Association and to Declarant.

18.07. Headings. The headings used in this Declaration are for convenience and reference only and the words contained therein shall not be held to expand, modify, or aid in the interpretation, construction, or meaning of this Declaration.

18.08. Enforcement. The failure of any Owner to comply with the provisions, terms, and conditions of any Governing Document shall entitle the Association, any Owner, or any of them, to maintain an action for the recovery of damages or injunctive relief or both, and such persons or entities, or any of them, shall have the right to enforce all limitations, restrictions, covenants, conditions, easements, liens, charges, assessments and equitable servitudes imposed by or pursuant to the provisions of this Declaration. Failure to enforce the provisions of this Declaration shall not be deemed a waiver of the right to do so thereafter. All remedies provided in this Declaration shall be cumulative and in addition to any other remedies available under law.

18.09. Equal Opportunity Housing. This Property provides equal opportunity housing. Each Lot sold shall be sold without regard to the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, marital status, familial status, handicap, age or sex of the purchaser.

18.10. Amendments.

(a) Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, this Declaration may be amended only in strict compliance with the Act, including, without limitation, Section 47F-2-117 of the Act, except that no Amendment altering or impairing Special Declarant Rights may be made without the written consent of the Declarant.

This Declaration may be amended or modified at any time by the vote or written consent of sixty-seven percent (67%) of the Voting Power of the Association. Provided, however, that if the percentage of the Voting Power necessary to amend a specific provision of this Declaration shall not be less than the prescribed percentage of affirmative votes required for action to be taken under that provision. Further provided, that any amendment or modification to this Declaration must be consented to by Declarant so long as Declarant is the Owner of any Lot or other portion of the Property, which consent Declarant may grant or withhold in its sole discretion. Any amendment or modification upon which the vote of Owners is required pursuant to this Section 18.10 shall become effective when an instrument executed by the Owners voting for such amendment or modification is filed of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County, North Carolina; provided, however, such an amendment or modification, in lieu of being executed by the Owners voting for such amendment or modification, may contain a certification of the Secretary of the Association stating that the amendment or modification has been voted on and approved by the requisite number of votes of the Owners, as provided in this Section 18.10.

Notwithstanding the terms of the immediately preceding paragraph of this Section 18.10, during the period of Declarant control as set forth in Section 8.06, Declarant, without obtaining the approval of any Owner or Owners other than Declarant, shall have the unilateral right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to make any amendments or modifications hereto which Declarant deems necessary or desirable, including, without limitation, amendments or modifications to any procedural, administrative or substantive provisions of this Declaration.

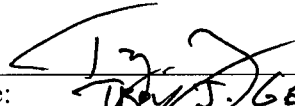
(b) Any action to challenge the validity of an amendment adopted under Section 18.10(a) must be brought within one (1) year of the amendment's effective date. No action to challenge any such amendment may be brought after such time.

18.11. Release of Property. Declarant shall have the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, without the consent of the Association or any other Owner, to release any portion of the Property then owned by Declarant from the terms of this Declaration by recording a release in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County, North Carolina. After the recordation of such release, the portion of the Property described therein shall not be subject to the terms of this Declaration.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being the Declarant herein, has executed this Declaration as of the date first above set forth.

DECLARANT:

STANDARD PACIFIC OF THE CAROLINAS, LLC,
a Delaware limited liability company

By: 

Name: TROY J. GEORGE

Title: DIVISION PRESIDENT

Wake

County, North Carolina

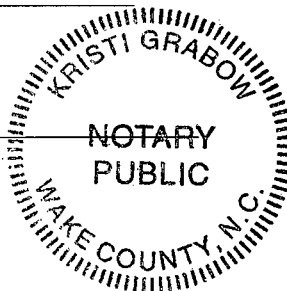
I certify that the following person personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged to me that he or she voluntarily signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated therein and in the capacity indicated: Troy J. George - Division President.

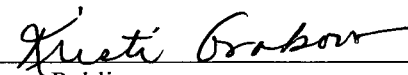
Date: 5/24/17

My Commission Expires:

9/10/2021

[Affix Notary Stamp or Seal]




Notary Public

Print Name: Kristi Grabow

EXHIBIT A

Property

BEING all of those certain tracts or parcels of land located in the Town of Apex, White Oak Township, Wake County North Carolina and being more particularly described as follows:

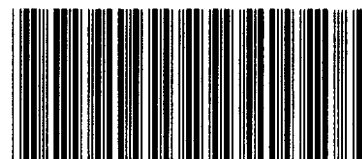
BEING all of those certain tracts or parcels of land designated as Lots 350 through 375, inclusive, and Lots 389 through 392, inclusive, Phase 8 Sweetwater Subdivision as shown on plat of survey entitled "Major Subdivision Final Plat of Sweetwater Phase 1 & 8 (Lots 335-397)" and recorded in Book of Maps 2017, Pages 423 through 432, Wake County Registry, which plat is referenced for a more particular description.

AND BEING all of those certain tracts or parcels of land designated as Lots 393 and 394, Phase 8 Sweetwater Subdivision as shown on plat of survey entitled "Recombination Plat of Sweetwater Phase 1 & 8 (Lots 393-397)" and recorded in Book of Maps 2017, Page 1054, Wake County Registry, which plat is referenced for a more particular description.

EXHIBIT B

Additional Land

1. Any land owned by the Declarant or hereinafter acquired by Declarant located immediately adjacent to or in proximity to the Property.



BOOK:016818 PAGE:01613 - 01648



Please retain yellow trailer page

It is part of the recorded document and must be submitted with the original for re-recording.

Charles P. Gilliam

Register of Deeds

Wake County Justice Center
300 South Salisbury Street, Suite 1700
Raleigh, NC 27601

☐ New Time Stamp

☐ \$25 Non-Standard Fee

☐ Additional Document Fee

☐ Additional Reference Fee

This Customer Group

_____ # of Excessive Entities

_____ # of Time Stamps Needed

This Document

36 # of Pages

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