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**Declaration**  
**of**  
**PROTECTIVE COVENANTS**  
**for**  
**OAKHAVEN**

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**DECLARATION OF PROTECTIVE COVENANTS  
FOR  
OAKHAVEN**

This **DECLARATION OF PROTECTIVE COVENANTS FOR OAKHAVEN** is made on this the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, by D.R. Horton, Inc. - Torrey, doing business as Torrey Homes ("Declarant").

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, Declarant is the owner of the real property described on Exhibit "A;" and

WHEREAS, Declarant desires to subject the real property described on Exhibit "A," and possibly other property, to the provisions of this Declaration to create a residential community of single-family housing.

NOW THEREFORE, Declarant hereby declares that the real property described on Exhibit "A" of this Declaration, including any improvements which may be (but are not required to be) constructed on that property, is subjected to the provisions of this Declaration. Such real property shall be held, sold, transferred, conveyed, used, occupied, and mortgaged or otherwise encumbered subject to the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, assessments, and liens, contained in this Declaration. The provisions of this Declaration shall run with the title to the property now or hereafter subjected to this Declaration. This Declaration shall be binding on all persons having any right, title, or interest in all or any portion of the property now or hereafter made subject hereto, their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors, successors-in-title, and assigns and shall inure to the benefit of each and every owner of all or any portion thereof.

**ARTICLE I. DEFINITIONS**

The following words, when used in this Declaration (unless the context shall prohibit), shall have the following meanings:

"Area of Common Responsibility" shall mean the Common Property, together with such other areas, if any, for which the Association has responsibility pursuant to this Declaration, any recorded plat, other covenants, contracts, or agreements.

"Association" shall mean Oakhaven Homeowners Association, Inc., a North Carolina nonprofit corporation, its successors and assigns.

"Board of Directors" or "Board" of the Association shall be the appointed or elected body, as applicable, having its normal meaning under North Carolina law.

"Builder" shall mean and refer to any Person acquiring one or more Lots from Declarant for the express purpose of constructing a dwelling on the Lot and selling the improved Lot.



“By-Laws” shall refer to the By-Laws of the Association.

“Common Property” shall mean, if any, the real property, interests in real property, and personal property, easements, and other interests, together with improvements located on that property (if any) which are now or are hereafter owned by the Association for the common use and enjoyment of some or all of the Owners.

“Community” and/or “Property” shall mean the real property and interests described on Exhibit “A” and such additions to that property as may be made by Declarant or by the Association pursuant to this Declaration.

“Community-Wide Standard” shall mean the standard of conduct, maintenance, or other activity generally prevailing in the Community. Such standard may be more specifically determined by the Board of Directors of the Association. Such determination must be consistent with the Community-Wide Standard originally established by the Declarant.

“Declarant” shall mean and refer to D.R. Horton, Inc. - Torrey, doing business as Torrey Homes, as well as its successors and assigns pursuant to an express assignment or conveyance of any special Declarant rights hereunder to such successor or assign, all of which rights, including Declarant’s voting, easement and development rights, shall be assignable and may be apportioned on a lot-by-lot basis. Any such assignment shall be recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of the county in which the Community is located.

“Declarant’s Development Period” shall mean and refer to the period of time commencing on the date this Declaration is recorded in the Register of Deeds for the County in which the Community is located, and continuing until the later of: (i) one (1) year after Declarant shall cease to own any property within the Community; or (ii) for so long as Declarant shall have the unilateral right to subject additional property to this Declaration.

“Declaration” shall include this Declaration of Protective Covenants for Oakhaven, as the same may be supplemented or amended pursuant to any Supplementary Declaration or any amendment to this Declaration in accordance with its terms.

“Lot” shall mean any plot of land within the Community, whether or not improvements are constructed on that land, which constitutes or will constitute, after the construction of improvements, a single-family dwelling site as shown on a plat recorded in the land records of the county where the Community is located. The ownership of each Lot shall include, and there shall pass with each Lot as an appurtenance thereto, whether or not separately described, all of the right, title, and interest of an Owner in the Common Property and membership in the Association.

“Mortgage” means any mortgage, security deed, deed of trust, or similar instruments used for the purpose of encumbering real property in the Community as security for the payment or satisfaction of an obligation.

“Mortgagee” shall mean the holder of a Mortgage.

“Occupant” shall mean any Person occupying all or any portion of a Lot or other property located within the Community for any period of time, regardless of whether such Person is a tenant of the Owner of such property.

“Owner” shall mean the record owner, whether one or more Persons, of the fee simple title to any Lot located within the Community; excluding any Person holding such interest merely as security for the performance or satisfaction of any obligation.

“Person” means a natural person, corporation, joint venture, partnership (general or limited), association, trust, or other legal entity.

“Supplementary Declaration” means an amendment or supplement to this Declaration which subjects additional restrictions and obligations on the land described therein, or both.

“Total Association Vote” means all of the votes attributable to members of the Association. If the Total Association Vote is taken during a time while Declarant has the right to appoint members of the Board of Directors, a Total Association Vote approving some item or proposition must contain the affirmative vote of Declarant or the item or proposition will be deemed not to have been approved.

## **ARTICLE II. PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THIS DECLARATION**

2.1. Property Subjected To This Declaration. The real property which is subject to the covenants and restrictions contained in this Declaration is the real property described in Exhibit “A.”

2.2. Other Property. Only the real property described in Section 2.1 is made subject to this Declaration. However, Declarant may subject all or portions of the additional real property described in Exhibit “B” by recording one or more Supplementary Declarations.

## **ARTICLE III. ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS**

3.1. Membership. Every Owner shall be deemed to have a membership in the Association. If a Lot is owned by more than one Person, there shall be only one (1) membership per Lot, and the votes and rights of use and enjoyment shall be as provided in this Declaration and in the By-Laws. Membership shall be appurtenant to and may not be separated from ownership of any Lot. The rights and privileges of membership, including the right to vote and to hold office, may be exercised by a member or the member’s spouse, but in no event shall more than one (1) vote be cast nor office held for each Lot owned.

3.2. Voting. Members shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot owned. When more than one (1) Person holds an ownership interest in any Lot, the vote for such Lot shall be exercised as those Owners themselves determine and advise the Secretary prior to any meeting. The Lot’s vote shall be suspended in the event more than one (1) Person seeks to exercise it.

3.3. Directors Appointed by Declarant. The Declarant shall have the right to appoint or remove any member or members of the Board or any officer or officers of the Association



until such time as the first of the following events shall occur: (a) five years from the date the Declaration was recorded; (b) the date on which 75% of the lots developed or to be developed as part of the Community (including all present and future phases) pursuant to development plans maintained by the Declarant, as such plans may be revised and amended from time-to-time, have been conveyed to Persons other than Builders; or (c) the surrender by Declarant in writing of the authority to appoint and remove directors and officers of the Association. 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. The directors selected by the Declarant need not be Owners or residents in the Community.

#### **ARTICLE IV. ASSESSMENTS**

4.1. Purpose of Assessment. The assessments provided for in this declaration shall be used for the general purposes of promoting the recreation, health, safety, welfare, common benefit, and enjoyment of the Owners and occupants of Lots, as may be authorized from time to time by the board, and in particular for the acquisition, improvement and maintenance of properties, services and facilities devoted to such purposes and related to the use and enjoyment of the Common Property or the Lots, including but not limited to, the costs of repairs, replacements and additions, the cost of labor, equipment, materials, management and supervision; the maintenance of open spaces and streets which have not been accepted for dedication by a public authority, roadway medians and islands (including medians and islands located in dedicated rights-of-way within the Property), drives and parking areas within the Common Property; the procurement and maintenance of insurance in accordance with this Declaration; the maintenance of stormwater drainage facilities, dams and ponds, including retention or detention ponds, or other bodies of water, if any, located within the Common Property; the erection, maintenance and/or repair of signs, entranceways, landscaping, perimeter wall, irrigation and lighting within the Common Property, road medians and islands; the cost of operating, maintaining and repairing any street lights erected by the Association or the Declarant within the Common Property or in the rights-of-way of streets (whether public or private) or in any other easement provided therefor within the Property; the payment of charges for garbage collection and municipal water and sewer services furnished to the Common Property; the employment of attorneys and other agents to represent the Association when necessary; the provision of adequate reserves for the replacement of capital improvements including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, paving, and any other major expense for which the Association is responsible; and such other needs as may arise..

4.2. Creation of the Lien and Personal Obligation for Assessments. Each Owner agrees to timely pay to the Association: (a) annual assessments or charges; (b) special assessments; and (c) specific assessments against any particular Lot which are established pursuant to the terms of this Declaration. Each Owner also agrees to pay reasonable fines as may be imposed in accordance with the terms of this Declaration.

4.3. Late Charges. All assessments, shall accrue late charges, interest (not to exceed the lesser of the maximum rate permitted by law or eighteen percent (18%) per annum on the principal amount due), costs, including without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees actually incurred. The assessments and charges shall be a continuing lien upon the Lot against which



each assessment is made, and shall also be the personal obligation of the person who was the Owner of such Lot at the time the assessment fell due.

4.4. Personal Liability. Each Owner shall be personally liable for the portion of each assessment coming due while the Owner of a Lot, and each grantee of an Owner shall be jointly and severally liable for the assessments which are due at the time of conveyance; however, the liability of a grantee for the unpaid assessments of its grantor shall not apply to any first Mortgagee taking title through foreclosure proceedings.

4.5. Certificate of Payment. The Association shall, within ten (10) business days after receiving a written request, furnish a certificate signed by an officer of the Association setting forth whether the assessments, other charges, and fines on a specified Lot have been paid. A properly executed certificate shall be binding upon the Association, the Board, and the Owner as of the date of issuance. The Board shall have the right to impose a reasonable charge for providing this certificate.

4.6. Annual Assessments. Annual assessments shall be levied equally on all similarly situated Lots and shall be paid in such manner and on such dates as may be fixed by the Board. The Board may allow annual assessments to be paid through periodic payments, and the Board shall have the right to accelerate any unpaid annual installments in the event an Owner is delinquent. Unless otherwise provided by the Board, the assessment shall be paid in quarterly installments.

4.7. Computation of Annual Assessments. The Board shall prepare a proposed budget covering the estimated costs of operating the Association during the coming year, which may include a capital contribution or reserve. The Board shall set a date for a meeting of the Owners to consider ratification of the budget, such meeting to be held not less than ten (10) nor more than thirty (30) days after the mailing of the notice. The Board shall cause the proposed budget, the assessments, and a notice of the meeting to consider ratification of the budget, including a statement that the budget may be ratified without a quorum, to be mailed or delivered to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to the end of the current fiscal year. Quorum need not be present at the meeting. The budget and the assessment shall become effective unless disapproved at such meeting by the Owners entitled to cast at least eighty percent (80%) of the votes of the Association. In the event the membership disapproves the proposed budget, or the Board fails to establish a budget for the succeeding year, the budget in effect for the then current year shall continue for the succeeding year until changed by the Board. In the event the Board's budget is disallowed, the Board shall have the right to make a new budget retroactive to the start of the fiscal year.

4.8. Special Assessments. In addition to the other assessments authorized by this Declaration, the Association may levy special assessments from time to time. Special assessments must be approved at a meeting by at least two-thirds (2/3rds) of the Total Association Vote. Special assessments shall be paid as determined by the Board, and the Board may permit special assessments to be paid in installments extending beyond the fiscal year in which the special assessment is imposed.

4.9. Lien for Assessment. All assessments and charges provided for herein, together with interest, and late fees, costs and reasonable attorney's fees, shall be a charge on the land and shall be a continuing lien upon the Lot against which each such assessment is made when a claim of lien is filed of record in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court, Durham County, North Carolina.

4.10. Personal Obligation. Each such assessment and charge, together with interest, any late fees, fines, costs and reasonable attorney's fees, shall also be the personal obligation of the Owner(s) of such Lot at the time when the assessment fell due. The personal obligation for delinquent assessments shall not pass to successors in title unless expressly assumed by them.

4.11. Effect of Nonpayment of Assessment. Any assessments (or installments) which are not paid when due shall be delinquent. Any assessment (or installment) which is delinquent for a period of more than ten (10) days shall incur a late charge in an amount set by the Board. If the Assessment is not paid within thirty (30) days, a lien shall attach upon filing a claim of lien in the office of the Register of Deeds of the county in which the Lot is located. The lien shall set forth the name and address of the Association, the name of the Owner of the Lot, a description of the Lot, and cover all assessments then due or which come due until the lien is canceled of record, and any other amounts provided in this Declaration or permitted by law. In the event that the assessment remains unpaid after thirty (30) days, the Association may institute suit to collect such amounts and foreclose its lien. The Association shall have the right to foreclose its lien by any method allowed by law. The Association shall have the power to bid on the Lot at any foreclosure sale or to acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, or convey the same.

4.12. No Setoff or Deduction. No Owner may waive or otherwise exempt himself from liability for the assessments provided for in this Declaration. No setoff, diminution, or abatement of any assessment shall be claimed or allowed by reason of any alleged failure of the Association to take some action for inconvenience or discomfort arising from the making of repairs or improvements which are the responsibility of the Association, or from any action taken by the Association to comply with any law, ordinance, or with any order or directive of any municipal or other governmental authority. The obligation to pay assessments is a separate and independent covenant on the part of each Owner and is not subject to setoff.

4.13. Application of Payments. All payments shall be applied first to costs, then to late charges, then to interest, and then to delinquent assessments.

4.14. Date of Commencement of Assessments. As to each Lot, assessments shall start on the first day of the month following the sale of the Lot to a Person other than a Builder. The first annual assessment shall be adjusted according to the number of days then remaining in that fiscal year.

4.15. Specific Assessment. The Board shall have the power to specifically assess pursuant to this Section as it shall deem appropriate, in its sole discretion. Failure of the Board to exercise its authority under this Section shall not be grounds for any action against the Association or the Board of Directors and shall not constitute a waiver of the Board's right to exercise its authority under this Section in the future. The Board may also specifically assess



Owners for the following Association expenses (except for expenses incurred for maintenance and repair of items which are the Association's maintenance responsibility):

a. Expenses of the Association which benefit less than all of the Lots may be specifically assessed equitably among all of the Lots which are benefited according to the benefit received; and

b. Expenses of the Association which benefit all Lots, but which do not provide an equal benefit to all Lots, may be assessed equitably among all Lots according to the benefit received.

4.16. Budget Deficits During Declarant Control. For so long as the Declarant has the authority to appoint the directors and officers of the Association, Declarant may (but shall not be required to):

a. Advance funds to the Association sufficient to satisfy the deficit, if any, between the actual operating expenses of the Association and the sum of the annual, special, and specific assessments collected by the Association in any fiscal year. Such advances shall, upon request of Declarant, be evidenced by promissory notes from the Association in favor of the Declarant. The failure of Declarant to obtain a promissory note shall not invalidate the debt; or

b. Cause the Association to borrow such amount, or a general borrowing, from a third party at the then prevailing rates for such a loan in the local area of the Community. Declarant, in its sole discretion, may guarantee repayment of such loan, if required by the lending institution, but no Mortgage secured by the Common Property or any of the improvements maintained by the Association shall be given in connection with such loan; or

c. Acquire property for, or provide services to, the Association or the Common Property. Declarant shall designate the value of the property or the services provided and such amounts, at the request of the Declarant, be evidenced by a promissory note. Failure to obtain a promissory note shall not invalidate the obligation referred to in this Section.

## **ARTICLE V. MAINTENANCE & CONVEYANCE OF COMMON PROPERTY TO ASSOCIATION**

5.1. Association's Responsibility. The Association shall maintain in good repair all Areas of Common Responsibility, including (without limitation), maintenance, repair, and replacement of all landscaping and improvements situated on the Common Property. The Association shall also maintain all lakes and associated dams in or serving the Community, to the extent maintenance of such lake is required and the lake is not otherwise maintained by a governmental entity or third party.

a. The Association shall also maintain all entry features, and common areas, operate and maintain street lights (if not maintained and operated by a governmental

entity) for the Community including the expenses for water and electricity, if any, provided to all such entry features; all storm water detention facilities and easements serving the Community (to the extent such facilities and easements are not maintained by a governmental entity).

b. The Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, to maintain other property not owned by the Association, within the Community, where the Board has determined that such maintenance would benefit the Owners.

c. In the event that the Association determines that the need for maintenance, repair, or replacement of property described in (a) or (b) above is caused through the willful or negligent act of an Owner, or the family, guests, lessees, or invitees of any Owner, and is not covered or paid for by insurance, in whole or in part, then the Association may perform such maintenance, repair, or replacement at such Owner's sole cost and expense, and all costs thereof shall be an assessment against such Owner subject to the Association's lien and collection rights provided for in this Declaration. Such Owner may request a hearing by the Board of Directors, or an adjudicatory panel appointed by the Board, to determine responsibility for the damages if the monetary amounts involved are less than or equal to the jurisdictional amount established for small claims under North Carolina law. The hearing shall afford notice of the charge to the Owner, an opportunity for the Owner to be heard and to present evidence, and a notice of decision by the Board. The Board of Directors or its appointees may not assess liability in an amount in excess of the jurisdictional amount established for small claims under North Carolina law.

d. The maintenance shall be performed consistent with the Community-Wide Standard.

5.2. Owner's Responsibility. Except as provided in Section 5.1 above, all maintenance of the Lot and all structures, parking areas, landscaping, and other improvements thereon shall be the sole responsibility of the Owner thereof, who shall maintain such Lot in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and this Declaration. In the event that the Board determines that any Owner has failed or refused to discharge properly any of such Owner's obligations with regard to the maintenance, repair, or replacement of items for which such Owner is responsible, the Association may perform such maintenance, repair, or replacement for the Owner at the expense of the Owner. Except in an emergency situation, the Association shall give the Owner written notice of the Association's intent to provide such necessary maintenance, repair, or replacement. The notice shall set forth with reasonable particularity the maintenance, repairs, or replacement deemed necessary. The Owner shall have ten (10) days after receipt of such notice within which to complete such maintenance, repair, or replacement, or, in the event that such maintenance, repair, or replacement is not capable of completion within a ten (10) day period, to commence such work which shall be completed within a reasonable time. If any Owner does not comply with the provisions hereof, the Association may provide any such maintenance, repair, or replacement at such Owner's sole cost and expense, and all costs shall be an assessment against the Owner.



5.3. Conveyance of Common Property by Declarant to Association. The Declarant may convey to the Association any personal property, any improved or unimproved real property, leasehold, easement, or other property interest located within or adjacent to the Community. Such conveyance shall be accepted by the Association, and the property shall thereafter be Common Property to be maintained by the Association for the benefit of all or a part of its members. Declarant shall not be required to make any improvements whatsoever to property to be conveyed and accepted pursuant to this Section. Declarant in recording any plat of the Property may identify thereon certain areas of land as "Open Space," "Common Area," "Common Property," or similar designation. Such designated properties, unless otherwise expressly provided, are expressly not dedicated to the public, but are intended to be conveyed by Declarant to the Association as Common Property. Declarant, however, reserves the right to reconfigured, in accordance with any applicable local governmental ordinances and regulations, all or any portion of such areas and all or any one or more of the Lots shown on any recorded subdivision plat at any time prior to the conveyance of such property by recording a revised subdivision plat of the property and thereby increase or decrease the area of any "Open Space," "Common Area," "Common Property," or similarly designated property and/or increase or decrease the number or size of the Lots shown thereon. Any "Open Space," "Common Area," "Common Property," or similarly designated property conveyed to the Association shall be conveyed subject to all easements and restrictions then of record, and the recording of a plat showing such areas shall not limit the rights of Declarant to further restrict such property and to grant and convey easements on, over or upon such property, prior to its conveyance to the Association.

## **ARTICLE VI. USE RESTRICTIONS AND RULES**

6.1. General. This Section sets out certain use restrictions that must be complied with by all Owners and Occupants. These use restrictions may only be amended as provided in this Declaration. In addition, the Board may, from time to time, without consent of the members, promulgate, modify, or delete other use restrictions and rules and regulations applicable to the Community. Such use restrictions and rules shall be distributed to all Owners and Occupants prior to the date that they are to become effective and shall thereafter be binding upon all Owners and Occupants until and unless overruled, canceled, or modified in a regular or special meeting by a majority of the Total Association Vote; provided, however, during Declarant's Development Period, any such use restrictions and rules must receive the prior written approval of Declarant.

6.2. Residential Use. All Lots shall be used for residential purposes exclusively; provided, however, a home office or business may be maintained on a Lot so long as the principal use of the Lot is for single-family residential purposes and such ancillary use of the Lot for a home office or business is permitted by applicable local governmental ordinances, laws and regulations and otherwise is determined by the Association not to create a nuisance and conforms to all rules and regulations from time to time promulgated by the Association concerning same. Leasing of a Lot shall not be considered a business or business activity. However, the Board may permit a Lot to be used for business purposes so long as such business, in the sole discretion of the Board, does not otherwise violate the provisions of the Declaration or By-Laws, does not create a disturbance and does not unduly increase traffic flow or parking

congestion. The Board may issue rules regarding permitted business activities. The Declarant shall have the right to operate a sales office and a construction office from one or more Lots within the Community.

6.3. Architectural Standards. No exterior construction, alteration, addition, or erection of any nature whatsoever shall be commenced or placed upon any part of the Community, except such as is installed by the Declarant, or as is approved in accordance with this Section, or as is otherwise expressly permitted herein. Except as provided above, no exterior construction, addition, erection, or alteration shall be made unless and until plans and specifications showing at least the nature, kind, shape, height, materials, and location shall have been submitted in writing to and approved by an Architectural Review Committee to be established by the Board.

a. The Architectural Review Committee may be established such that it is divided into two (2) subcommittees, with one (1) subcommittee having jurisdiction over modifications and the other having jurisdiction over new construction.

b. The Board may employ architects, engineers, or other persons as it deems necessary to enable the Architectural Review Committee to perform its review.

c. The Architectural Review Committee may, from time to time, delegate any of its rights or responsibilities hereunder to one (1) or more duly licensed architects or other qualified Persons, which shall have full authority to act on behalf of the committee for all matters delegated.

d. Written design guidelines and procedures shall be promulgated for the exercise of this review, which guidelines may provide for a review fee.

e. During Declarant's Development Period, the Declarant shall have the right to appoint all members of the Architectural Review Committee. Upon the expiration or earlier surrender in writing of such right, the Board shall appoint the members of the Architectural Review Committee.

f. If the Architectural Review Committee fails to approve or to disapprove submitted plans and specifications within sixty (60) days after the plans and specifications have been submitted to it, approval will not be required, and this Section will be deemed to have been fully complied with. As a condition of approval under this Section, each Owner, on behalf of such Owner and such Owner's successors-in-interest, shall assume all responsibilities for maintenance, repair, replacement, and insurance to and on any change, modification, addition, or alteration. In the discretion of the Architectural Review Committee, an Owner may be made to verify such condition of approval by a recordable written instrument acknowledged by such Owner on behalf of such Owner and such Owner's successors-in-interest. The Architectural Review Committee shall be the sole arbiter of such plans and may withhold approval for any reason, including purely aesthetic considerations, and it shall be entitled to stop any construction commenced in violation of these restrictions. Any member of the Board or its representatives shall have the right, during reasonable hours and after reasonable notice, to enter upon any property to inspect for the purpose of ascertaining whether or



not these Persons shall not be deemed guilty of trespass by reason of such entry. In addition to any other remedies available to the Association, in the event of noncompliance with this Section, the Board may, as provided in this Declaration, record in the appropriate land records a notice of violation naming the violating Owner.

g. Plans and specifications are not approved for engineering or structural design or quality of materials, and by approving such plans and specifications neither the Architectural Review Committee, the members thereof, nor the Association assumes liability or responsibility therefore, nor for any defect in any structure constructed from such plans and specifications. Neither Declarant, the Association, the Architectural Review Committee, the Board, nor the officers, directors, members, employees, and agents of any of them shall be liable in damages to anyone submitting plans and specifications to any of them for approval, or to any owner of property affected by these restrictions by reason of mistake in judgment, negligence, or nonfeasance arising out of or in connection with the approval or disapproval or failure to approve or disapprove any such plans or specifications. Every Person who submits plans or specifications and every Owner agrees that such Person or Owner will not bring any action or suit against Declarant, the Association, the Architectural Review Committee, the Board, or the officers, directors, members, employees, and agents of any board, or the officers, directors, members, employees, and agents of any of them to recover any damages and hereby releases, remises, quitclaims, and covenants not to sue for all claims, demands, and causes of action arising out of or in connection with any judgment, negligence, or nonfeasance and hereby waives the provisions of any law which provides that a general release does not extend to claims, demands, and causes of action not known at the time the release is given.

h. Signs. No sign of any kind shall be erected by an Owner or Occupant within the Community without the prior written consent of the Architectural Review Committee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board and the Declarant shall have the right to erect reasonable and appropriate signs. "For Sale" and "For Rent" signs and security signs consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and any signs required by legal proceedings may be erected upon any Lot. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to any Person holding a Mortgage who becomes the Owner of any Lot as purchaser at a judicial or foreclosure sale conducted with respect to a first Mortgage or as transferee pursuant to any proceeding in lieu thereof.

i. Vehicles. The term "vehicles," as used herein, shall include, without limitation, motorhomes, boats, trailers, motorcycles, minibikes, scooters, go-carts, trucks, campers, buses, vans, and automobiles.

The following activities are prohibited within the Community unless expressly authorized by, and then subject to such conditions as may be imposed by, the Board of Directors:

i. Parking of any vehicles on streets or thoroughfares within the Community, or parking of commercial vehicles or equipment, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, boats and other watercraft, trailers, stored or inoperable

vehicles in places other than enclosed garages; provided, construction, service, and delivery vehicles shall be exempt from this provision during daylight hours for such period of time as is reasonably necessary to provide service or to make a delivery to a Lot or the Common Areas;

ii. Garage doors shall be kept closed at all times, except during times of ingress and egress from the garage;

iii. Any boat, motorhome, trailer, or recreational vehicle left upon any portion of the Community for longer than three consecutive days is subject to removal upon written notice from the Association to the Owners of such boat, motorhome, trailer, or recreational vehicle, and the costs of such removal shall be an assessment against such Owner.

iv. Trucks with mounted campers which are an Owner's or Occupant's primary means of transportation shall not be considered recreational vehicles, provided they are used on a regular basis for transportation and the camper is stored out of public view upon removal.

j. Off Road. No motorized vehicles shall be permitted on pathways or unpaved Common Property except for public safety vehicles and vehicles authorized by the Board.

k. Leasing. Lots may be leased for residential purposes. All leases shall have a minimum term of at least twelve (12) months. All leases shall require, without limitation, that the tenant acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Declaration, By-Laws, use restrictions, and rules and regulations of the Association. The lease shall also obligate the tenant to comply with the foregoing and shall provide that in the event of noncompliance, the Board, in addition to any other remedies available to it, may evict the tenant on behalf of the Owner and specifically assess all costs associated therewith against the Owner and the Owner's property.

l. Occupants Bound. All provisions of the Declaration, By-Laws, and of any rules and regulations, use restrictions, or design guidelines promulgated pursuant thereto which govern the conduct of Owners and which provide for sanctions against Owners shall also apply to all Occupants even though Occupants are not specifically mentioned. Fines may be levied against Owners or Occupants. If a fine is first levied against an Occupant and is not timely paid, the fine may then be levied against the Owner.

m. Animals and Pets. No animals, livestock, or poultry of any kind may be raised, bred, kept, or permitted on any Lot, with the exception of dogs, cats, or other usual and common household pets in reasonable number, as determined by the Board, provided such pets are kept in accordance with applicable local governmental ordinances, rules and regulations. No pets shall be kept, bred, or maintained for any commercial purpose. Dogs which are household pets shall be kept on a leash when outside of an Owner's residence. No pet which has caused any damage or injury shall be walked in the community, whether on a leash or otherwise. All pets shall be registered, licensed, and



vaccinated as required by law. Pets which endanger health, make objectionable noise, or constitute a nuisance or inconvenience to the Owners or Occupants must be removed by their owner upon request of the Board.

n. Nuisance. It shall be the responsibility of each Owner and Occupant to prevent the development of any unclean, unhealthy, unsightly, or unkempt condition on his or her property. No property within the Community shall be used, in whole or in part, for the storage of any property or thing that will cause such Lot to appear to be in an unclean or untidy condition or that will be obnoxious to the eye; nor shall any substance, thing, or material be kept that will emit foul or obnoxious odors or that will cause any noise or other condition that will or might disturb the peace, quiet, safety, comfort, or serenity of the occupants of surrounding property. No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on within the Community, nor shall anything be done tending to cause embarrassment, discomfort, annoyance, or nuisance to any Person using any property within the Community. There shall not be maintained any plants or animals or device or thing of any sort whose activities or existence in any way is noxious, dangerous, unsightly, unpleasant, or of a nature as may diminish or destroy the enjoyment of the community. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, no speaker, horn, whistle, siren, bell, amplifier, or other sound device, except such devices as may be used exclusively for security purposes or as approved by the ARC, shall be located, installed, or maintained upon the exterior of any Lot unless required by law.

o. Unsightly or Unkempt Conditions. The pursuit of hobbies or other activities, including, without limitation, the assembly and disassembly of motor vehicles and other mechanical devices, which might tend to cause disorderly, unsightly, or unkempt conditions, shall not be pursued or undertaken in any part of the Community.

p. Antennas. No satellite dishes, antennas, and similar devices for the transmission of television, radio, satellite, or other signals of any kind shall be placed, allowed, or maintained within the Community, except that Declarant and the Association shall have the right, without the obligation, to erect or install and maintain any such apparatus for the benefit of all or a portion of the Community, and (i) satellite dishes designed to receive direct broadcast satellite service which are one meter or less in diameter; (ii) satellite dishes designed to receive video programming services via multi-point distribution services which are one meter or less in diameter or diagonal measurement; or (iii) antennas designed to receive television broadcast signals ((i), (ii), and (iii), collectively, "Permitted Devices") shall be permitted, *provided that* any such Permitted Device is placed in the least conspicuous location on the Lot (generally being the rear of the Lot) at which an acceptable quality signal can be received and is not visible from the street, Common Area, or neighboring property or is screened from the view of adjacent Lots in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and any design guidelines.

q. Tree Removal. No trees that are more than four (4) inches in diameter at a point two (2) feet above the ground shall be removed without the prior written consent of the Architectural Review Committee. However, no flowering trees, including, without

limitation, dogwood trees, regardless of their diameter, shall be removed without the prior written consent of the Architectural Review Committee. Notwithstanding all of the above, no consent or approval is required for the removal of any trees, regardless of their diameter, that are located within ten (10) feet of a drainage area, septic field, sidewalk, residence, driveway, or the line formed by the highest normal pool elevation of any lake.

r. Drainage. Catch basins and drainage areas are for the purpose of natural flow of water only. No obstructions or debris shall be placed in these areas. No Owner or Occupant may alter, obstruct, or re-channel the drainage flows after location and installation of drainage swales, storm sewers, or storm drains, the right to alter same being expressly reserved to Declarant.

s. Sight Distance at Intersections. All property located at street intersections shall be landscaped so as to permit safe sight across the street corners. No fence, wall, hedge, or shrub planting shall be placed or permitted to remain where it would create a traffic or sight problem.

t. Garbage Cans, Woodpiles, Etc. All garbage cans, woodpiles, hot tubs, spas, and related equipment, and other similar items shall be located or screened so as to be concealed from view of neighboring streets and property. All rubbish, trash, and garbage shall be regularly removed and shall not be allowed to accumulate. Declarant reserves the right to dump and bury rocks on property within the Community as needed for efficient construction and to allow developers and builders within the Community to bury rocks removed from a building site. Trash, garbage, debris, or other waste matter of any kind may not be burned within the Community except that Declarant may maintain a "burn pit" during development and construction of the Community.

u. Subdivision of Lot. No Lot shall be subdivided or its boundary lines changed except with the prior written approval of the Architectural Review Committee. Declarant, however, hereby expressly reserves the right to replat any Lot or Lots owned by Declarant. Any such division, boundary line change, or replatting shall not be in violation of the applicable subdivision and zoning regulations. Declarant's right to replat any Lot shall include the right to change the configuration of streets and otherwise make changes on the final plat for the Community as to how the streets and common areas in the Community are laid out.

v. Guns. The use of firearms in the Community is prohibited. The term "firearms" includes rifles, pistols, "BB" guns, pellet guns, and small firearms of all types.

w. Fences. No fence or fencing type barrier of any kind shall be placed, erected, allowed, or maintained upon any Lot without the prior written consent of the Architectural Review Committee. Under no circumstances shall any fence be placed, erected, allowed, or maintained upon any Lot closer to the street than the rear one-third (1/3) of the residence located on the Lot. (Generally, only shadow-box style privacy fencing constructed of six (6) foot maximum height, dog-eared, unpainted, cedar or four (4) foot maximum height rough sawn open board or split rail, unpainted, cedar fencing shall be approved by the Architectural Review Committee.) Notwithstanding the



foregoing, the Declarant shall have the right to erect fencing of any type, at any location, on any Lot during the period that such Lot is being used by Declarant as a model home. The Board of Directors shall have the right to erect fencing of any type considered appropriate or desirable by the Board at any location on the Common Property.

x. Utility Lines. No overhead utility lines, including lines for cable television, shall be permitted within the Community, except for temporary lines as required during construction, and lines installed by or at the request of Declarant.

y. Air Conditioning Units. No window air conditioning units may be installed.

z. Lighting. Except as may be permitted by the Architectural Review Committee, exterior lighting visible from the street shall not be permitted except for (a) approved lighting as originally installed on a Lot; (b) one (1) decorative post light, (c) street lights in conformity with an established street lighting program for the Community; (d) seasonal decorative lights; or (e) front house illumination of model homes.

aa. Artificial Vegetation, Exterior Sculpture, and Similar Items. No artificial vegetation shall be permitted on the exterior of any property. Exterior sculpture, fountains, flags, and similar items must be approved by the Architectural Review Committee.

bb. Energy Conservation Equipment. No solar energy collector panels or attendant hardware or other energy conservation equipment shall be constructed or installed unless they are an integral and harmonious part of the architectural design of a structure, as determined in the sole discretion of the Architectural Review Committee.

cc. Swimming Pools and Hot Tubs. No swimming pool shall be constructed, erected, or maintained upon any Lot. Hot tubs and portable spas shall not be permitted without the prior written consent of the Architectural Review Committee and then only if enclosed by an approved fence.

dd. Gardens and Play Equipment. No vegetable garden or play equipment (including, without limitation, basketball goals) shall be erected on any Lot without the prior written consent of the Architectural Review Committee, and any such items must be located between the rear dwelling line and the rear lot line. Without limiting the foregoing, basketball goals may be installed providing they are constructed of black poles, permanently mounted, not visible from the street, and the Architectural Review Committee approves the location, height, and type of goal and post.

ee. Mailboxes. All mailboxes located on Lots shall be of a similar style approved by the Architectural Review Committee. Replacement mailboxes may be installed after the type has been approved in writing by the Architectural Review Committee.

ff. Exteriors. Any change to the exterior color of any improvement located on a Lot, including, without limitation, the dwelling, must be approved by the Architectural Review Committee.

gg. Clothesline. No exterior clotheslines of any type shall be permitted upon any Lot.

hh. Exterior Security Devices. No exterior security devices, including, without limitation, window bars, shall be permitted on any residence or Lot. Signs less than 6" by 6" placed on the Lot or the exterior of the residence stating that such residence is protected by a security system shall not be deemed to constitute an exterior security device.

ii. Entry Features. Owners shall not alter, remove, or add improvements to any entry features constructed by the Declarant on any Lot, or any part of any easement area associated therewith without the prior written consent of the Architectural Review Committee.

jj. Storage Sheds and Garages. Construction, installation, or placement of a storage shed, tree house, play house, detached garage, or a building separate from the main house on the Lot is not permitted without the prior written consent of the Architectural Review Committee, in its sole discretion. All plans (which must include the length, width, height, materials, colors, and location) must be submitted to the Architectural Review Committee for written approval prior to obtaining building permits or starting construction. The structure must be constructed, installed, or placed in a location inconspicuous as much as possible from public view. No two story structures of this nature are permitted on any Lot within the Community. All materials used in the construction of such buildings must match the main dwelling located on the Lot.

Owners shall have no riparian rights with respect to the waters in any lake or stream within the Community and shall not be permitted to withdraw water from any lake or stream as may exist in the Community or as are made available for the use of all Owners and Occupants within the Community without the prior written consent of the Board or its designee. During Declarant's Development Period, Declarant may authorize and grant easements to withdraw water from such lakes or streams without the consent of the Association.

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Declaration to the contrary, no vegetable gardens, hammocks, statuary, swing sets or similar play equipment, basketball goals or similar athletic equipment, boats or boating equipment, pools, fences, clothes drying equipment, dog houses, dog runs or other pet enclosures, signs, retaining walls, or any other structure or thing which, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, tends to detract from the appearance of the Community, and especially any lake, shall be permitted on any Lot which abuts or is appurtenant to any lake within the Community or any lake made available for the use of all Owners and Occupants within the Community, without the prior written consent of the Architecture Review Committee or its designee.

## **ARTICLE VII. INSURANCE AND CASUALTY LOSSES**



7.1. Insurance on Common Property. The Board of Directors or the duly authorized agent of the Association shall have the authority to and shall obtain insurance for all insurable improvements whether or not located on the Common Property which the Association is obligated to maintain. This insurance shall provide, at a minimum, fire and extended coverage, including vandalism and malicious mischief, and shall be in an amount sufficient to cover the full replacement cost of any repair or reconstruction in the event of damage or destruction from any such hazard. Alternatively, the Board may purchase “all-risk” coverage in like amounts.

7.2. Liability Insurance. The Board shall obtain a general commercial liability policy applicable to the Common Property covering the Association and its members for all damage or injury caused by the negligence of the Association or any of its members or agents, and, if reasonably available, directors’ and officers’ liability insurance. The public liability policy shall have a combined single limit of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00). If available, the Board is authorized to obtain directors’ and officers’ liability insurance coverage.

7.3. Declarant. The Board is authorized to obtain the insurance coverage required hereunder through the Declarant and to reimburse Declarant for the cost thereof. The Board shall not be required to comply with the provisions of this Section if the Board has contracted for or otherwise arranged to obtain the required insurance coverage through the Declarant.

7.4. Premiums. Premiums for all insurance shall be common expenses of the Association. The policies may contain a reasonable deductible, and the amount thereof shall not be subtracted from the face amount of the policy in determining whether the insurance at least equals the full replacement cost.

7.5. Miscellaneous. All such insurance coverage obtained by the Board of Directors shall be written in the name of the Association, as trustee for the respective benefited parties, as further identified below. Such insurance shall comply with these provisions:

a. All policies shall be written with a company authorized to do business in North Carolina.

b. Exclusive authority to settle losses under policies obtained by the Association shall be vested in the Association’s Board of Directors; provided, however, no Mortgagee having an interest in such losses may be prohibited from participating in the settlement negotiations, if any, related thereto.

c. In no event shall the insurance coverage obtained and maintained by the Association be brought into contribution with insurance purchased by individual Owners, Occupants, or their Mortgagees, and the insurance carried by the Association shall be primary.

d. All casualty insurance policies shall have an inflation guard endorsement and an agreed amount endorsement if these are reasonably available and all insurance policies shall be reviewed annually.

e. The Association's Board of Directors shall be required to make every reasonable effort to secure insurance policies that will provide for the following:

i. A waiver of subrogation by the insurer as to any claims against the Association's Board of Directors, its manager, the Owners and their respective tenants, servants, agents, and guests;

ii. A waiver by the insurer of its rights to repair and reconstruct instead of paying cash;

iii. That no policy may be canceled, invalidated, or suspended on account of any one or more individual Owners;

iv. That no policy may be canceled, subjected to nonrenewal, invalidated, or suspended on account of any defect or the conduct of any director, officer, or employee of the Association or its duly authorized manager without prior demand in writing delivered to the Association to cure the defect or to cease the conduct and the allowance of a reasonable time thereafter within which a cure may be effected by the Association, its manager, any Owner or Mortgagee;

v. That any "other insurance" clause in any policy exclude individual Owners' policies from consideration; and

vi. That no policy may be canceled, subjected to non-renewal, or substantially modified without at least thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Association.

f. In addition to the other insurance required by this Section, the Board shall obtain worker's compensation insurance, if and to the extent necessary to satisfy the requirements of applicable laws, and a fidelity bond or bonds on directors, officers, employees, and other persons handling or responsible for the Association's funds, if reasonably available. If obtained, the amount of fidelity coverage shall be determined in the three (3) months' assessments plus reserves on hand. Bonds shall contain a waiver of all defenses based upon the exclusion of persons serving without compensation and may not be canceled, subjected to non-renewal, or substantially modified without at least thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Association. The Association shall also obtain construction code endorsements, steam boiler coverage, and flood insurance, if and to the extent necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the Federal National Mortgage Association, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

7.6. Individual Insurance. By virtue of taking title to a Lot subject to the terms of this Declaration, each Owner acknowledges that the Association has no obligation to provide any insurance for any portion of individual Lots, and each Owner covenants and agrees with all other Owners and with the Association that each Owner shall carry blanket "all-risk" casualty insurance on the Lot and all structures constructed thereon and a liability policy covering damage or injury occurring on a Lot. The casualty insurance shall cover loss or damage by fire



and other hazards commonly insured under an "all-risk" policy, if reasonably available, including vandalism and malicious mischief, and shall be in an amount sufficient to cover the full replacement cost of any repair or reconstruction in the event of damage or destruction from any such hazard. If "all-risk" coverage is not reasonably available, Owners shall obtain, at a minimum, fire and extended coverage. The policies required hereunder shall be in effect at all times. Authority to adjust losses under policies obtained by an Owner shall be vested in the Owner. The losses under policies obtained by an Owner shall be vested in the Owner. The Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, at the expense of the Owner, to acquire the insurance required to be maintained by the Owner if the Owner fails to provide a valid policy to the Association with a prepaid receipt within ten (10) days after receipt by the Owner of a written request from the Association. If the Association acquires insurance on behalf of any Owner, the cost thereof shall be assessed against the Owner and the Lot as a specific assessment.

7.7. Damage and Destruction -- Insured by Association.

a. In General. Immediately after damage or destruction by fire or other casualty to all or any portion of any improvement covered by insurance written in the name of the Association, the Board or its duly authorized agent shall proceed with the filing and adjustment of all claims arising under such insurance and obtain reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair or reconstruction of the damaged or destroyed property. Repair or reconstruction, as used in this Section, means repairing or restoring the property to substantially the same condition and location that existed prior to the fire or other casualty, allowing for any changes or improvements necessitated by changes in applicable building codes. The Board shall have the enforcement powers specified in this Declaration necessary to enforce this provision.

b. Repair and Reconstruction. Any damage or destruction to property covered by insurance written in the name of the Association shall be repaired or reconstructed unless, within sixty (60) days after the casualty, at least eighty percent (80%) of the Total Association Vote otherwise agree; provided, however, during Declarant's Development Period, Declarant must also agree. If for any reason either the amount of the insurance proceeds to be paid as a result of such damage or destruction, or reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair or reconstruction, or both, are not made available to the Association within such period, then the period shall be extended until such information shall be made available; provided, however, such extension shall not exceed sixty (60) days. No Mortgagee shall have the right to participate in the determination of whether damage or destruction shall be repaired or reconstructed.

c. If the damage or destruction for which the insurance proceeds are paid is to be repaired or reconstructed and such proceeds are not sufficient to defray the cost thereof, the Board shall, without the necessity of a vote of the Association's members, levy a special assessment against all Owners in proportion to the number of Lots owned by such Owners. Additional assessments may be made in like manner at any time during or following the completion of any repair or reconstruction. If the funds available from insurance exceed the costs of repair or reconstruction or if the improvements are not repaired or reconstructed, such excess shall be deposited to the benefit of the Association.

