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DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

FOR

WESTHEIMER ESTATES

WEISSMAN, NOWACK, CURRY & WILCO, P.C. Attorneys

Ashiey Miller Lunior, Esq.

Gue Afriance Center 3500 Lenox Road, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Atleata, Georgia 30326 (404) 926-4587

· 202003. Weissman Novace Sciency & Whito, P.C. All rights reserved. This Dect arotton may be isoloned a connection with the sale of property at The Westmerher Estates and the ofleation of The Westmerker Estates Homeowise each about the No.

#### **BYLAWS**

OF

### WESTHEIMER ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

## Article I Name, Membership, Applicability, and Definitions

- Section 1. Name. The name of the Association shall be Westheimer Estates Homeowners Association Inc. ("Association").
- Section 2. Membership. The Association shall have one class of membership, as is more fully set forth in the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Westheimer Estates, ("Declaration"). The provisions of the Declaration pertaining to membership are by this reference made a part of these Bylaws.
- Section 3. <u>Definitions.</u> The words used in these Bylaws shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Declaration, unless the context shall prohibit.

## Article II Association: Meetings, Quorum, Voting, Proxies

- Section 1. <u>Place of Meetings</u>. Meetings of the Association shall be held at the principal office of the Association or at another place convenient to the members as determined by the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. First Meeting and Annual Meetings. The initial annual or special meeting shall be held within one (1) year from the date the Declaration is recorded, or at such other time as established by Declarant, After transition as provided in Article 2 hereof, annual meetings shall be set by the Board so as to occur sixty (60) days before or after the close of the Association's fiscal year.
- Section 3. Special: Meatings: The President may call special meetings: In addition; it shall be the dutyed of the President to call a special meeting of the Association if so directed by resolution of a Majority of the Board of Directors or upon a petition signed by Owners holding at least twenty-five (25%) percent of the total Association vote. The notice of any special meeting shall state the date, time, and place of such meeting and the purpose thereof. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting, except as stated in the notice.
- Section 4. Notice of Meetings. The Secretary shall mail or to cause to be delivered to the Owner of record of each Lot a notice of each annual or special meeting of the Association stating the purpose of the special meeting, as well as the time and place where it is to be held. If an Owner wishes notice to be given at an address other than his or her Lot, he or she shall have designated by notice in writing to the Secretary such other address. The mailing of such notice or delivery of such notice by leaving at the residence located on the Lot in the manner provided in this Section shall be considered service of notice. Notices shall be served not less than ten (10) nor more than thirty (30) days before a special meeting and not less than twenty-one (21) nor more than sixty (60) days before an annual meeting.
- Section 5. Waiver of Notice. Waiver of notice of a meeting of the members shall be deemed the equivalent of proper notice. Any member may, in writing, waive notice of any meeting of the members, either before or after such meeting. Attendance at a meeting by a member, whether in person or by proxy, shall be deemed waiver by such member of notice of the time, date, and place thereof, unless such member specifically objects to lack of proper notice at the time the meeting is called to order.
- Section 6. Adjournment of Meetings. If any meetings of the Association cannot be held because a quorum is not present, a Majority of the members who are present at such meeting, either in person or by proxy, may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than five (5) nor more than thirty (30) days from the time the original meeting was

called. At such adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present, any business which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called may be transacted without further notice.

- Section 7. Voting. Each Lot shall be entitled to one equally weighted vote, which vote may be cast by the Owner, the Owner's spouse, or by a lawful proxy as provided below. When more than one (1) Person owns a Lot, the vote for such Lot shall be exercised as they determine between or among themselves, but in no event shall more than one (1) vote be cast with respect to any Lot. If only one (1) co-owner attempts to cast the vote for a Lot, it shall be conclusively presumed that such co-owner is authorized on behalf of all co-owners to cast the vote for such Lot. In the event of disagreement between or among co-owners and an attempt by two (2) or more of them to cast such vote or votes, such Persons shall not be recognized and such vote or votes shall not be counted. No Owner shall be eligible to vote, either in person or by proxy, or to be elected to the Board of Directors, if that Owner is shown on the books or management accounts of the Association to be more than thirty (30) days delinquent in any payment due the Association or if the Owner has had its voting rights suspended for the infraction of any provision of the Declaration, these By-Laws, or any rule of the Association. If the voting rights of an Owner have been suspended, that Owner shall not be counted as an eligible vote for purposes of establishing a Majority or a quorum.
- Section 8. Proxies. At all meetings of members, each member may vote in person or by proxy. All proxies shall be in writing, dated, and filed with the Secretary before the appointed time of each meeting. Every proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon conveyance by the member of his or her Lot, or upon receipt of notice by the Secretary of the death or judicially declared incompetence of a member, or of written revocation, or upon the expiration of eleven (11) months from the date of the proxy.
- Section 9. Quorum. The presence, in person or by proxy, of Owners holding at least twenty-five (25%) percent of the total eligible Association vote shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Association. The members present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to do business until adjournment, norwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum.
- Section 10. Action Taken Without's Meeting. In the Board's discretion, any action that may be taken by the Association members at any annual, regular, or special meeting may be taken without a meeting if the Board delivers a written consent form or written ballot to every member entitled to vote on the matter.
- against each proposed action. Approval by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast by ballot equals or exceeds the quorum required to be present at a meeting authorizing the action, and the number of approvals equals or exceeds the number of votes that would be required to approve the matter at a meeting at which the total number of votes cast was the same as the number of votes cast by ballot.

All solicitations for votes by written ballot shall: a) indicate the number of responses needed to meet the quorum requirements; b) state the percentage of approvals necessary to approve each matter other than election of directors; and c) specify the time by which a ballot must be received by the corporation in order to be counted. A written ballot may not be revoked. The Association shall maintain such ballots in its file for at least three (3) years.

(b) Written Consent. Approval by written consent shall be valid only when the number of written consents received equals or exceeds the requisite majority of the voting power for such action. Executed written consents shall be included in the minutes or filed with the Association's records. If an action of the members is approved by written consent hereunder, the Board shall issue written notice of such approval to all members who did not sign written consents. Membership approval shall be effective ten (10) days after written notice is issued; provided, however, if the consent is to an amendment to the Declaration or Bylaws which must be recorded, the effective date shall be no earlier than the date of recording of such amendment.

## Article III Board of Directors: Number, Powers, Meetings

#### Composition and Selection.

Section 1. Governing Body; Composition. The affairs of the Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors. Except as provided in Section 2 of this Article, the directors shall be members or spouses of such members; provided, however, no Person and his or her spouse may serve on the Board at the same time.

Section 2. Directors Appointed by Declarant. Declarant shall have the right to appoint or remove all members of the Board of Directors and all officers of the Association until such time as the first of the following events shall occur: (a) the expiration of seven (7) years after the date of the recording of the Declaration; (b) the date on which seventy-five percent of the lots within Westheimer Estates, have been conveyed to Persons who have not purchased such Lots for the purpose of construction of a residence and resale of such Lot and residence; 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 this authority to appoint and remove directors and officers of the Association. The directors and officers appointed by the Declarant need not be Owners or residents in the Community.

Section 3 Number of Directors. The Board shall consist of one (1) or three (3) members during the period in which the Declarant has the right to appoint directors and officers as described in Section 2 of this Article and five (5) members after the expiration of this right.

Section 4. Nomination of Directors. Except with respect to directors appointed by the Declarant, nominations for election to the Board of Directors shall be made by a Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and three or more members of the Association. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors not less than thirty (30) days prior to each annual meeting to serve a term of one year or until their successors are appointed, and such appointment shall be announced at each such annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall make as many communitions for election to the Board of Directors as it shall in its discretion determine, but in no event less than the number of positions to be tilled. Nominations shall also be permitted from the floor. All candidates shall have a reasonable opportunity to communicate their qualifications to the members and to solicit votes.

Section 5. Election and Term of Office. Not later than sixty (60) days after termination of the Declarant's right to appoint directors and officers as described in Section 2 of this Article, the Association shall call a meeting to be held at which Owners shall elect five (5) directors. If such meeting is not the annual meeting, the directors elected shall serve until the next annual meeting. At the first annual meeting after Declarant has surrendered control of the Association, three (3) directors shall be elected for a term of two (2) years and two (2) directors shall be elected for a term of one (1) year. At the expiration of the first term of office of each member of the initial Board of Directors, a successor shall be elected to serve for a term of two (2) years. The members of the Board of Directors shall hold office until their respective successors shall have been elected by the Association.

At each annual meeting of the membership, directors shall be elected to succeed those directors whose terms are expiring. Each member shall be entitled to east one vote with respect to each vacancy to be filled from each slate on which the member is entitled to vote. There shall be no cumulative voting. The candidate(s) receiving the most votes shall be elected.

Section 6. Removal of Directors. At any regular or special meeting of the Association duly called, any one or more of the members of the Board of Directors may be removed, with or without cause, by Owners holding a Majority of the total Association vote and a successor may then and there be elected by the members entitled to elect that director in order to fill the vacancy thus created. A director whose removal has been proposed by the Owners shall be given at least ten (10) days notice of the calling of the meeting and its purpose and shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting. Additionally, except for directors appointed by Declarant, any director who has three (3)

consecutive unexcused absences from Board meetings or who is delinquent in the payment of an assessment for more than thirty (30) days may be removed by a Majority vote of the directors at a meeting, a quorum being present. In the event of the death, disability, or resignation of a director, a vacancy may be declared by the Board, and it may appoint a successor.

Section 7. <u>Vacancies.</u> Vacancies in the Board of Directors caused by any reason, excluding the removal of a director by vote of the Association or by the Declarant, shall be filled by a vote of the Majority of the remaining directors, even though less than a quorum, at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Each director so selected shall serve the unexpired portion of the term of his predecessor.

#### B. Meetings.

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- Section 8. Organization Meetings. The first meeting of the Board of Directors following each annual meeting of the membership shall be held within ten (10) days at the time and place determined by the Board.
- Section 9. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at such time and place as shall be determined from time to time by a Majority of the directors, but at least four (4) such meetings shall be held during each fiscal year with at least one (1) per quarter. Notice of the regular schedule shall constitute sufficient notice of the meetings.
- Section 10. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held when requested by the President, Vice President or by any two (2) directors. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the nature of any special business to be considered. The notice shall be given to each director by one of the following methods: (a) by personal delivery; (b) written notice by first class mail, postage prepaid; (c) by telephone communication, either directly to the director or to a person at the director's home or office who would reasonably be expected to communicate such notice promptly to the director; or (d) by telegram, charges prepaid. All notices shall be given or sent to the director's address or telephone number as shown on the records of the Association. Notices sent by first class mail shall be deposited into a United States mailbox at least four (4) days before the time set for the meeting. Notices given by personal delivery, telephone, or telegraph company shall be given at least forty-eight (48) hours before the time set for the meeting.
- Section 11. Wriver of Netice. The transactions of any meeting of the Board of Directors, however called and noticed or wherever held, shall be as valid as though taken at a meeting duly held after regular call and notice, if (a) a quorum is present, and (b) either before or after the meeting, each of the directors not present signs a written waiver of notice, a consent to holding the meeting, or an approval of the minutes. The waiver of notice or consent need not specify the purpose of the meeting. Notice of a meeting shall also be deemed to have been given to any director who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice.
- Section 12. Quorum of Board of Directors. At all meetings of the Board of Directors, a Majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the votes of a Majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute the decision of the Board of Directors. If any meeting cannot be held because a quorum is not present, a Majority of the directors who are present at such meeting may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than five (5) nor more than thirty (30) days from the time that the original meeting was called. At such adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present, any business which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called may be transacted without further notice.
- Section 13. Compensation. No director shall receive any compensation from the Association for acting as a director unless approved by a Majority of the Owners.
- Section 14. Open Meetings. All meetings of the Board shall be open to all members, but members other than directors or officers may not participate in any discussion or deliberation unless expressly so authorized by the Board.

- Section 15. Executive Session. The Board may adjourn a meeting and reconvene in executive session to discuss and vote upon personnel matters, litigation in which the Association is or may become involved, and orders of business of a similar nature. The nature of any and all business to be considered in executive session shall first be announced in open session.
- Section 16. Action Without A Formal Meeting. Any action to be taken at a meeting of the directors or any action that may be taken at a meeting of the directors may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by a majority of the directors. For purposes hereof, written consents of directors may be given by electronic mail or other electronic document.
- Section 17. Telephonic Participation. One or more directors may participate in and vote during any regular or special meeting of the Board by telephone conference call or similar communication equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time, and those directors participating by telephone shall be deemed to be present at such meeting for quorum and other purposes. Any such meeting at which a quorum participates shall constitute a regular meeting of the Board.

#### C. Powers and Duries.

- Section 18. Powers. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the affairs of the Association and shall have all of the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the Association's affairs and, as provided by law, may do all acts and things as are not by the Declaration, Articles, or these Bylaws directed to be done and exercised exclusively by the members. In addition to the duties imposed by these Bylaws or by any resolution of the Association that may hereafter be adopted, the Board of Directors shall have the power to and be responsible for the following, in way of explanation, but not limitation:
- (a) preparing and adopting an annual budget in which there shall be established the contribution of each Owner to the common expenses;
- (b) making assessments to defray the common expenses, establishing the means and methods of collecting the assessments, and establishing the period of the installment payments of the annual assessment;
- (c) providing for the operation, care, upkeep and maintenance of all areas which are the maintenance responsibility of the Association;
- (d) designating, hiring, and dismissing the personnel necessary for the operation of the Association and, where appropriate, providing for the compensation of such personnel and for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and material to be used by such personnel in the performance of their duties;
- (e) collecting the assessments, depositing the proceeds thereof in a bank depository or institution which it shall approve or otherwise investing the proceeds in accordance with any limitations set forth in O.C.G.A. § 14-3-302, and using the proceeds to administer the Association;
  - (f) making and amending rules and regulations;
- (g) opening of bank accounts or other financial accounts on behalf of the Association and designating the signatories required;
- (h) enforcing by legal means the provisions of the Declaration, these Bylaws, and the rules and regulations adopted by it, and bring any proceedings which may be instituted on behalf of or against the Owners concerning the Association:
- (i) obtaining and carrying insurance against casualties and liabilities, as provided in the Declaration, and paying the premium cost;

- (j) paying the cost of all services rendered to the Association or its members which are not directly chargeable to Owners;
- (k) keeping books with detailed accounts of the receipts and expenditures affecting the Association and its administration, and specifying the maintenance and repair expenses and any other expenses incurred; and
- (1) contracting with any Person for the performance of various duties and functions. The Board shall have the power to enter into common management agreements with trusts, condominiums, or other associations. Any and all functions of the Association shall be fully transferable by the Board, in whole or in part, to any other entity.
- Section 19. Management Agent. The Board of Directors may employ for the Association a professional management agent or agents at a compensation established by the Board of Directors to perform such duties and services as the Board of Directors shall authorize. The Declarant or an affiliate of the Declarant may be employed as managing agent or manager. The Board shall use best efforts to provide that any management agreement shall not exceed one (1) year in term and shall be subject to termination by either party, without cause and without penalty, upon not more than thirty (30) days' written notice.

#### Article IV Officers

- Section I. Officers. The officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer Any two (2) or more offices may be held by the same Person, excepting the offices of President and Secretary. The President shall be elected from among the members of the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. Election, Term of Office, and Vacancies. Except during the period in which the Declarant has the right to appoint the officers of the Association under Article III, Section 2 of these Bylaws, the officers of the Association shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the Board following each annual meeting of the members. A vacancy in any office arising because of death, resignation, removal, or otherwise may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.
- Section 3. Removal. Any officer may be removed by the Board of Directors whenever in its judgmest, and the removal will serve the best interests of the Association.
- Section 4. President. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors. The President shall have all the general powers and duties which are incident to the office of the president of a corporation organized under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code.
- Section 5. <u>Vice President</u>. The Vice President shall act in the President's absence and shall have all powers, duties, and responsibilities provided for the President when so acting.
- Section 6. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors and shall have charge of such books and papers as the Board of Directors may direct and shall, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of the secretary of a corporation organized in accordance with Georgia law.
- Section 7. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have the responsibility for the Association's funds and securities and shall be responsible for keeping full and accurate financial records and books of account showing all receipts and disbursements, for preparing all required financial statements and tax returns, and for the deposit of all monies and other valuable effects in the name of the Association or the managing agent in such depositories as may from time to time be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 8. Resignation. Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board of Directors, the President, or the Secretary. Such resignation shall take effect on the date of the receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

#### Article V Committees

The Board of Directors is authorized to establish committees to perform those tasks and to serve for those periods that it designates. Each committee shall be composed and shall operate in accordance with the terms of the resolution of the Board of Directors designating the committee or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors. Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.

## Article VI Rule Making and Enforcement

Section 1. Authority and Enforcement. The Property shall be used only for those uses and purposes set out in the Declaration. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make, modify, repeal and enforce reasonable rules and regulations governing the conduct, use, and enjoyment of Lots; provided, copies of all such rules and regulations shall be furnished to all Owners and Occupants. Any rule or regulation may be repealed by the affirmative vote or written consent of a Majority of the total Association vote at an annual or special meeting of the membership:

Every Owner and Occupant shall comply with the Declaration, Bylaws and rules and regulations of the Association, and any lack of compliance shall entitle the Association and, in an appropriate cases one or more aggrieved Lot Owners, to take action to enforce the terms of the Declaration, Bylaws or rules and regulations.

The Board shall have the power to impose reasonable fines, which shall constitute a lien upon the Owner's Lot, and to suspend an Owner's right to vote for violation of any duty imposed under the Declaration, these Bylaws, or any rules and regulations duly adopted hereunder; provided, however, nothing herein shall authorize the Association or the Board of Directors to limit ingress and egress to or from a Lot. If any Occupant violates the Declaration, Bylaws or Association rules and a fine is imposed, the fine may be imposed against the Owner and/or Occupant; subject to Section 2 below. The failure of the Board to enforce any provision of the Declaration, Bylaws, or any rule or regulation shall not be deemed a waiver of the right of the Board to do so thereafter.

Section 2. Fining and Suspension Procedure. The Board shall not impose a fine or suspend the right to vote, unless and until the Association has sent or delivered written notice to the violator as provided in subsection (a) below. However, compliance with this Section 2 shall not be required for the following: (i) late charges on delinquent assessments, or (ii) suspension of voting rights if an Owner is shown on the Association's records to be more than thirty (30) days delinquent in any payment due the Association, in which case suspension of the right to vote shall be automatic.

shall send the violator written notice identifying the violation and sanction being imposed and advising the violator of the right to request a hearing before the Board to contest the violation or fine(s) or to request reconsideration of the sanction. Sanctions may be effective or commence upon the sending of such notice or such later date specified in such notice, notwithstanding the violator's right to request a hearing before the Board to challenge the sanction. In the event of a continuing violation, each day the violation continues or occurs again constitutes a separate offense, and fines may be imposed on a per diem basis without further notice to the violator.

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- (d) Hearing. If a written request for hearing is received from the violator within ten (10) days of the date of the violation notice provided above, then the Board shall schedule and hold in executive session a hearing affording the violator a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The minutes of the meeting shall contain a written statement of the results of the hearing. The Board may establish rules of conduct for such hearing, which may include limits on time and on the number of participants who may be present at one time. Failure to request a timely hearing as provided herein shall result in loss of the right to challenge and request reconsideration of the fines.
- Section 3. Additional Enforcement Rights. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein contained, the Association, acting through the Board, may elect to enforce any provision of the Declaration, the Bylaws, or the rules and regulations by self-help (specifically including, but not limited to, the towing of vehicles that are in violation of parking rules and regulations or performing maintenance on any Lot upon a failure by the Lot Owner to do so) or by suit at law or in equity to enjoin any violation or to recover monetary damages or both without the necessity for compliance with the procedure set forth in Section 2 of this Article. In any such action, to the maximum extent permissible, the Owner or Occupant responsible for the violation for which abatement is sought shall pay all costs, including reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred.

The Association or its duly authorized agent shall have the power to enter a Lot to abate or remove, using such force as may be reasonably necessary, any structure, thing or condition which violates the Declaration, the Bylaws, or the rules and regulations. All costs of self-help or of otherwise enforcing the Declaration. Bylaws or Association rules, including reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred, shall be assessed against the violating Lot Owner. Additionally, the Association shall have the authority to record in the Gwinnett County land records a notice of violation identifying an uncurred violation of the Declaration, Bylaws or rules and regulations regarding the Lot.

#### Article VII Miscellaneous

- Section 1. <u>Eiscal Year</u>. The fiscal year of the Association shall be determined by resolution of the Board. In the absence of such a resolution, the fiscal year shall be the calendar year.
- Section 2. Parliamentary Rules Roberts Rules of Order (current edition) shall govern the conduct of all Association proceedings, when not in conflict with Georgia law, the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, these Bylaws, or a ruling made by the Persompresiding over the proceedings.
- Section 3. Conflicts. If there are conflicts or inconsistencies between the provisions of Georgia law, the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, and these Bylaws, the provisions of Georgia law, the Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, and the Bylaws (in that order) shall prevail.
- Section 4. Einancial Review. A review of the accounts of the Association shall be made annually in the manner as the Board of Directors may decide; provided, however, after having received the Board's reviewed financial statement at the annual meeting, by a Majority of the Association vote present, or represented by proxy, the Owners may require that the accounts of the Association be audited as a common expense by a public accountant. Upon written request of any institutional holder of a first Mortgage and upon payment of all necessary costs, such holder shall be entitled to receive a copy of an audited financial statement within ninety (90) days of the date of the request.
- Section 5. Amendment. These Bylaws may be amended unilaterally at any time and from time to time by Declarant (a) if an amendment is necessary to bring any provision into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule, or regulation or judicial determination with which it is in conflict; (b) if an amendment is necessary to enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage with respect to the Lots subject to the Declaration; (c) if an amendment is required by an institutional or governmental lender or purchaser of mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to enable the lender or purchaser to make or purchase Mortgage loans on the Lots subject to the Declaration; (d) if an amendment is necessary to enable any governmental agency or reputable private insurance company to insure or guarantee Mortgage loans on the Lots subject to the Declaration; or (e) to submit the Community to the terms of the

Georgia Property Owners' Association Act. However, any such amendment shall not adversely affect the title to any Owner's Lot unless any Lot Owner consents to the amendment in writing.

In addition to the above, these Bylaws may be amended upon the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination of affirmative vote and written consent of Owners holding at least a Majority of the total Association vote, plus the consent of the Declarant. Amendments to these Bylaws shall become effective upon recordation, unless a later effective date is specified in the amendment. No provision of these Bylaws which reserves or grants special rights to the Declarant shall be amended without the Declarant's prior written consent so long as the Declarant owns any property in the Community, primarily for development and/or sale.

Notwithstanding the above, VA and HUD shall have the right to veto amendments to these Bylaws for as long as the Declarant has the right to appoint directors and officers of the Association under Article III, Section 2 of these Bylaws.

#### Section 6. Books and Records.

- (a) All members of the Association and any institutional holder of a first Mortgage shall be an entitled to inspect the following records at a reasonable time and location specified by the Association, apon written request at least five (5) days before the date on which the member wishes to inspect and copy:
- (i) its Articles or restated Articles of Incorporation and all amendments to them currently in effect;
  - (ii) its By-Laws or restated By-Laws and all amendments to them currently in effect;
- (iii) resolutions adopted by either its members or Board of Directors increasing or decreasing the number of directors or the classification of directors, or relating to the characteristics, qualifications, rights, limitations, and obligations of members or any class or category of members;
- (iv) resolutions adopted by either its members or Board of Directors relating to the characteristics, qualification, rights, limitations, and obligations of members or any class or category of members;
- (v) the minutes of all meetings of members and records of all actions approved by the members for the past three (3) years;
- (vi) all written communications to members generally within the past three (3) years, including the financial statements furnished for the past three (3) years;
- officers; and
  - (viii) its most recent abnual report delivered to the Secretary of State.
- (b) A member may inspect and copy the following records upon written notice at least five (5) business days before the date on which the member wishes to inspect and copy only if the member's demand is made in good faith and for a proper purpose that is reasonably relevant to the member's legitimate interest as a member; the member describes with reasonable particularity the purpose and the records the member desires to inspect; the records are directly connected with this purpose; and the records are to be used only for the stated purpose:
- (i) excerpts from minutes of any meeting of the Board of Directors, records of any action of a committee of the Board of Directors while acting in place of the Board of Directors on behalf of the Association, minutes of any meeting of the members, and records of action taken by the members or the Board of Directors without a meeting, to the extent not subject to inspection under subsection 9(a):

### (ii) accounting records of the Association; and

(iii) the membership ust only if for a purpose related to the member's interest as a member. Without the consent of the Board, a membership list or any part thereof may not be: used to solicit money or property unless such money or property will be used solely to solicit the votes of the members in an election to be held by the Association; used for any commercial purpose; or sold to or purchased by any person.

The Association may impose a reasonable charge, covering the cost of labor and material, for copies of any documents provided to the Member.

Section 7. General. The Gwinnett Board of Commissioners must consent in writing prior to the dissolution of the Association.

280263

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being the duly appointed officers of Declarant herein, have executed this instrument and affixed the corporate seal this 24 day of Septen, 2003, 2003.

ASSOCIATED LAND GROUP CO.

a Georgia company.

By:

Title:

[CORPORATE SEAL]

Signed, sealed, and delivered this

V. Itnacc

) A (

Notary Public

Theresa M Wood
Notary Public, GWinnett County, Georgia
My Commission: Express transactor 17,4004

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|       | 16.                               | Sight Distance at Intersections                     | 10      |  |  |
|       | Ì7.                               | Garbage and Refuse Disposal                         |         |  |  |
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Return to:

Associated Land Group Co. 5984 Norcross Tucker Road Norcross, Georgia 30093 Attn: John Michelena

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF GWINNETT

# DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS FOR WESTHEIMER ESTATES

THIS DECLARATION is made on the date set forth below by Associated Land Group Co., a Georgia company ("Declarant");

#### WITNESETH:

WHEREAS, Declarant is the owner of the real property described in Article II of this Declaration; and

WHEREAS, Declarant desires to subject the real property described in Article II to the provisions of this Declaration to create a residential community of single-family housing and to provide for the subjecting of other real property to the provisions of this Declaration;

NOW, THEREFORE, Declarant declares that, subject to the provisions of Section 3 of Article IX of this Declaration, the real property described in Article II of this Declaration, including the improvements constructed or to be constructed thereon, is subjected to the provisions of this Declaration, and shall be held, sold, transferred, conveyed, used, occupied, and mortgaged or otherwise encumbered subject to the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, assessments, and liens, set forth in this Declaration, which are for the purpose of protecting the value and desirability of, and which shall run with the title to, the real property subject to this Declaration, and shall be binding on all persons having any right, title, or interest in all or any portion of the real property subject to his Declaration, their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors, successors-in-title, and assigns and shall be for the benefit of all owners of the property subject to this Declaration.

THIS DECLARATION DOES NOT AND IS NOT INTENDED TO CREATE A CONDOMINIUM REGIME SUBJECT TO THE GEORGIA CONDOMINIUM ACT. O.C.G.A. § 44-3-70, ET SEQ.

THIS DECLARATION DOES NOT AND IS NOT INTENDED TO SUBMIT THE PROPERTY TO THE TERMS OF THE GEORGIA PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION ACT, O.C.G.A. § 44-3-220, ET SEQ.

of the Lot. However, the liability of a grantee for the unpaid assessments of an Owner shall not apply to any first Mortgage holder taking title through foreclosure proceedings or by deed in lieu of foreclosure, provided, however, any first mortgage holder who takes title through foreclosure proceedings or by deed in lieu of foreclosure shall be liable for all assessments due after the date of foreclosure.

The Association shall, within five (5) business days after receiving a written request and for a reasonable charge, furnish a certificate signed by an officer or agent of the Association setting forth whether the assessments on a specified Lot have been paid. A properly executed certificate of the Association certifying the status of assessments on a Lot shall be binding upon the Association as of the date of issuance.

Assessments shall be levied equally on all Lots within the Community, as applicable, and shall be paid in such manner and on such dates as are fixed by the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise provided, the annual assessment shall be paid in quarterly installments due on the first day of each calendar quarter. Upon ten (10) days written notice, the Board may accelerate the annual assessment for delinquents.

Section 3. Computation of Annual Assessment. It shall be the duty of the Board, at least sixty (60) days before the beginning of each fiscal year, to prepare a budget covering the estimated common expenses of the Association during the coming fiscal year. The budget shall include a capital contribution establishing a reserve fund in accordance with a budget separately prepared.

The common assessment to be levied against each Lot for the coming year shall be set at a level which is reasonably expected to produce total revenue to the Association equal to the total budgeted common expenses, including reserves. In determining the level of assessments, the Board, in its discretion, may consider other sources of funds available to the Association. In addition, the Board shall take into account the number of Lots subject to assessment on the first day of the fiscal year for which the budget is prepared and the number of Lots reasonably anticipated to become subject to assessment during the fiscal year. The annual assessment for the Fiscal year during which this Declaration is recorded in the Gwinnett County, Georgia records, shall be One Hundred and Ninety Five Dollars (\$195.00) and may be adjusted by the Board therewith as provided herein. So long as the Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first, on an annual basis, the Declarant may elect, but shall not be obligated, to reduce the assessment for any fiscal year by paying a subsidy on such terms and under such circumstances as the Declarant in its sole discretion may decide. The payment of a subsidy shall under no circumstances obligate the Declarant to continue payment of a subsidy in the future. The Declarant's option to subsidize the assessment may be satisfied in the form of cash, or by "in kind" contributions of services or materials, or a combination of these.

The Board shall deliver or mail a copy of the common expense budget and notice of the amount of the assessment for each Lot to each Owner at least thirty (30) days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. The budget and assessment shall become effective unless disapproved at a meeting by a Majority of the total Association vote and, so long as the Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first, by the Declarant. There shall be no obligation to call a meeting for the purpose of considering the budget except on petition of the Owners as provided in the Bylaws. The petition must be presented to the Board within ten (10) days of delivery of the notice of assessments.

Notwithstanding the above, in the event the proposed budget is disapproved or the Board fails to prepare and distribute the budget for any year then until such a budget is prepared and distributed, the budget in effect for the immediately preceding year shall continue for the current year, unless and until the Board presents a new budget as provided above.

Section 4. Special Assessments. In addition to the other assessments authorized herein, the Association may levy special assessments from time to time to cover unbudgeted expenses or expenses in excess of those budgeted. Special assessments must be approved by Owners holding at least two-thirds (2/3) of the votes present in person or by proxy at a duly called meeting held for such purpose, so long as the Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first, by the Declarant. 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.

Section 5. Lien for Assessments. All assessments levied against any Lot, together with late charges, interest, costs, and reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred, shall be secured by a lien on the Lot in favor of the Association. The Association shall have the right, but not the obligation to evidence the existence of the lien by filing a notice of lien in the Gwinnett County, Georgia, records. The lien shall be superior to all other liens and encumbrances on the Lot, except for: (a) liens for ad valorem taxes; or (b) liens for all sums unpaid on a first Mortgage or on any Mortgage to Declarant duly recorded in the Gwinnett County, Georgia, records.

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

Section 6. Effect of Nonpayment of Assessments: Remedies of the Association. Any assessments or installments of assessments which are not paid when due shall be delinquent. Any assessment or installment delinquent for a period of more than fifteen (15) days shall incur a late charge in an amount as the Board may from time to time determine, which shall not exceed the greater of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) or ten percent (10%) of the assessment payment. If the assessment is not paid within thirty (30) days, a lien shall attach and, in addition, the lien shall include the late charge, interest at a rate not to exceed the highest rate allowed under Georgia law, and all late charges from the date first due and payable, all costs of collection, reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred, and any other amounts provided or permitted by law. The existence of the lien may, but is not required to be, evidenced by the filing of a notice of lien in the Gwinnett County, Georgia, records. In the event that the assessment remains unpaid after sixty (60) days, the Association may, as the Board shall determine, institute suit to collect such amounts and/or to foreclose its lien. Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed or as a party to any other type of a conveyance, vests in the Association or its agents the right and power to bring all actions against him or her, personally; for the collection of such charges as a debt or to foreclose the lien. The lien provided for in this Article shall be in favor of the Association and shall be for the benefit of all other Owners. The Association, acting on behalf of the Owners, shall have the power to bid on the Lot at any foreclosure sale or to acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, or convey the Lot.

No Owner may waive or otherwise exempt himself or herself from liability for assessments, by abandoning the Lot or in any other manner. The obligation to pay assessments is a separate and independent covenant on the part of each Owner and no reduction of any assessment shall be claimed or allowed by reason of (a) any alleged failure of the Association to take some action or perform some function required to be taken or performed by the Association under this Declaration or the Bylaws, (b) for inconvenience or discomfort arising from the making of repairs or improvements which are the responsibility of the Association, or (c) 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.

All payments shall be applied first to costs and attorney's fees, then to late charges, then to interest and then to delinquent assessments.

Section 7. Date of Commencement of Assessments. Assessments shall commence as to a Lot on the earlier of (a) the first day of the month following the occupancy of the Lot for residential purposes, or (b) the first day of the month a builder, developer or person intending to construct and/or occupy a residence on the Lot purchases a Lot from Declarant for the purpose of construction of a residence and residence. The Declarant or a builder or developer who purchases a Lot for the purpose of construction of a residence and resale of the Lot and residence shall not be responsible for the payment of any type of assessment except as provided herein; provided, however, assessments shall commence on Lots containing occupied residences that are owned by Declarant or any builder or developer on the first day of the month following the occupancy of the residence located on the Lot. Assessments shall be due and payable in a manner and on the schedule that the Board of Directors provides. Lots which have not been conveyed as provided above shall not be subject to assessment. The first annual common assessment shall be adjusted according to the number of months then remaining in that fiscal year.

Section 8. Specific Assessments. The Board shall have the power to specifically assess specific Lots pursuant to this Section as, in its discretion, it shall deem appropriate. 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 with respect to any expenses, including an expense for which the Board has not previously exercised its authority under this Section. Fines levied pursuant to Article XIII, Section 1 hereof and the costs of maintenance performed by the Association which the Owner is responsible for under Article V, Sections 1 and 2 hereof shall be specific assessments. The Board may also specifically assess Lots for the following Association expenses, except for expenses incurred for maintenance and repair of items which are the maintenance responsibility of the Association:

- (a) Expenses of the Association which benefit less than all of the Lots in the Community may be specifically assessed equitably among all of the Lots which are benefited according to the benefit received.
- (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.

Section 9. Initiation Fee. The first Owner of a Lot conveyed from the Declarant or an Approved Builder ("First Owner") shall pay to the Association at the time of acquisition of such Lot an initiation fee in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00). After the First Owner, any subsequent Owner, who acquires a Lot subject to mandatory membership in The Westheimer Estates Homeowners Association pursuant to the terms of this Declaration shall pay an initiation fee in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) upon acquisition of the Lot. The initiation fee shall not be deemed an advance payment of regular or special assessments. The Board shall have discretion to increase the initiation fee by resolution of the Board; provided, however, the initiation fee shall not be changed by the Board without Declarant's consent so long as Declarant owns any property in the Community for seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, no initiation fee shall be due from any person or entity who takes title through foreclosure (or deed in lieu of foreclosure) upon the lien of any first priority mortgage covering the Lot and the lien of any secondary purchase money mortgage covering the Lot. This initiation fee shall be an assessment which is the personal obligation of the Owner, and shall constitute a lien which may be collected as provided in Section 6 of this Article.

#### Article V.

#### Maintenance: Conveyance of Common Property to Association

Section 1. Association's Responsibility. The Association shall maintain and keep in good repair the Common Property. This maintenance shall include, without limitation, maintenance, repair, and replacement, subject to any insurance then in effect, of all landscaping and improvements located on the Common Property. The Association shall maintain any sign or landscape easements which are located on Lots within the Community, and shall maintain and pay the expenses for any water and electricity provided to maintain landscape and sign easements. The Association shall also maintain all property outside of Lots located within the Community which was originally maintained by Declarant.

In addition, the Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, to maintain other property not owned by the Association, whether located within or without the Community, where the Board has determined that such maintenance would benefit all Owners.

In the event that the Association determines that the need for maintenance, repair, or replacement, which is the responsibility of the Association, is caused through the willful or negligent act of an Owner, his or her family, guests, lessees, or invitees, and is not completely covered or paid for by insurance, then the Association may perform the maintenance, repair or replacement at the expense of the Owner, and all costs shall be added to and become a part of the assessment obligation of the Owner and shall become a lien against the Lot.

The Association shall perform all maintenance in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard.

Section 2. Owner's Responsibility. Except as provided in Section 1 above, all maintenance of the Lot and all structures, parking areas, landscaping, and other improvements on the Lot shall be the sole responsibility of the Owner, who shall maintain the Lot in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and this Declaration. In

addition, each Owner shall maintain any public right of way located between the Owner's Lot and the curb of the street(s) bordering such Lot. Such maintenance shall be performed consistent with this Declaration and the Community-Wide Standard established pursuant hereto. Each Owner shall perform his or her responsibility hereunder in such manner so as not to unreasonably disturb other Lot Owners. Such maintenance shall include, but not be limited to, maintaining fencing in good repair, exterior painting as needed and maintenance of all vegetation and landscaping in good and presentable condition. In the event that the Board of Directors determines that a Lot is not maintained in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and this Declaration, except in an emergency situation, the Board of Directors shall give the Owner written notice of the Association's intent to provide the necessary maintenance, repair, or replacement at the Owner's sole cost and expense. The notice shall state the maintenance, repairs, or replacement deemed necessary. The Owner shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice to complete the maintenance, repair, or replacement. In the event that the maintenance, repair, or replacement is not capable of completion within a thirty (30) day period, the Owner shall begin the work and shall complete it within a reasonable time. If any Owner does not comply, the Association may provide the maintenance, repair, or replacement at Owner's sole cost and expense, and all costs shall be added to and become a part of the assessment obligation of the Owner and shall become a lien against the Lot.

Section 3. Conveyance of Common Property by Declarant to Association. The Declarant may transfer or convey to the Association any personal property and any improved or unimproved real property, leasehold, easement, or other property interest which is or may be subjected to the terms of this Declaration. Such conveyance shall be accepted by the Association, and the property shall 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.

#### Article VI.

#### **Use Restrictions and Rules**

Section 1. General. This Article, beginning at Section 2, sets out certain use restrictions which must be complied with by all Owners and occupants of Lots. These use restrictions may only be amended in the manner provided in Article XIII, Section 4, regarding amendment of this Declaration. In addition, the Board may, from time to time, without consent of the Owners, adopt, modify, or delete rules and regulations applicable to the Community. These rules shall be distributed to all Owners prior to the date that they are to become effective and after distribution shall be binding upon all Owners and occupants of Lots until and unless overruled, canceled, or modified in a regular or special meeting by a Majority of the total eligible Association vote and the consent of Declarant (so long as the Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first). Notwithstanding the above, until such time as one hundred (100%) percent of the Community and any Additional Property has been developed and conveyed to purchasers in the normal course of development and sale no rules and regulations which affect the Declarant may be adopted, modified, or deleted without the written consent of the affected Declarant.

Section 2. Residential Use. Each Lot shall be used for residential purposes only, and no trade or business of any kind may be conducted in or from a Lot or any part of the Community, including business uses ancillary to a primary residential use, except that the Owner or occupant residing in the residence on a Lot may conduct such ancillary business activities within the residence so long as (a) the existence or operation of the business activity is not apparent or detectable by sight, sound, or smell from the exterior of the residence; (b) the business activity does not involve persons coming onto the Community who do not reside in the Community or door-to-door solicitation of residents of the Community (other than deliveries by couriers, express mail carriers, parcel delivery services and other such similar delivery services); (c) the business activity conforms to all zoning requirements for the Community; (d) the business activity does not increase the insurance premium paid by the Association or otherwise negatively affect the ability of the Association to obtain insurance coverage; and (e) the business activity is consistent with the residential character of the Community and does not constitute a nuisance or a hazardous or offensive use, or threaten the security or safety of other residents of the Community, as may be determined in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors; and (f) the business activity does not result in a materially greater use of common area facilities or Association services. Home schooling which involves teaching of children who reside in the residence in which the schooling takes place shall not be considered a business or otherwise in violation of this residential use restriction.

The terms "business" and "trade," as used in this provision, shall be construed to have their ordinary, generally accepted meanings, and shall include, without limitation, any occupation, work, or activity undertaken on an ongoing basis which involves the provision of goods or services to persons other than the provider's family and for which the provider receives a fee, compensation, or other form of consideration, regardless of whether: (i) the activity is engaged in full or part-time; (ii) the activity is intended to or does generate a profit; or (iii) a license is required for the activity. Notwithstanding the above, the use of a Lot by an on-site management company operating on behalf of the Association shall not be considered a trade or business within the meaning of this Section.

Section 3. Building Type and Location. No building or dwelling shall be erected, altered, placed or permitted to remain on any Lot which exceeds two and one-half stories in height. No building shall be located on any Lot nearer to the front Lot line or nearer to the side street line than the minimum building setback lines shown on the recorded plats. All dwellings shall have a minimum of 1,400 square feet of heated and cooled space, excluding basements and garages. Under no conditions may garages be converted to living areas.

Section 4. <u>Use of Common Property</u>. There shall be no obstruction of the Common Property, nor shall anything be kept, parked or stored on any part of the Common Property without the prior written consent of the Association, except as specifically provided herein.

With the prior written approval of the Board of Directors, and subject to any restrictions imposed by the Board, an Owner or Owners may reserve portions of the Common Property for use for a period of time as set by the Board. Any such Owner or Owners who reserve a portion of the Common Property as provided herein shall assume, on behalf of himself/herself/themselves and his/her/their guests, Occupants and family, all risks associated with the use of the Common Property and all liability for any damage or injury to any person or thing as a result of such use. The Association shall not be liable for any damage or injury resulting from such use unless such damage or injury is caused solely by the willful acts or gross negligence of the Association, its agents or employees.

Section 5. Exterior Painting, Exterior Vinyl Siding or Redecorating. Any exterior painting, exterior vinyl siding changes or redecorating may be done only by consulting and working with the Architectural Control Committee as more specifically provided in Article X of this Declaration in order to maintain a well coordinated color scheme throughout the enure subdivision. This includes any exterior alterations or modifications to an existing structure.

Section 6. Signs. No sign of any kind shall be erected by an Owner or occupant of a Lot within the Community without the prior written consent of the Architectural Control Committee except as follows: (a) one (1) "For Sale" or "For Rent" sign of a size not exceeding two (2) feet by three (3) feet, which sign must include a local phone number of a person to whom inquiries concerning the property may be directed may be placed in any landscaped portion of a Lot; and (b) one (1) professionally lettered security decal consistent with the Community-Wide Standard may be placed in a window(s) of a residence and/or one professionally lettered security sign may be placed in any landscaped portion of a Lot. No other signs may be located on any structure or on a vehicle on a Lot or on the Common Property except as provided herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Declarant and the Board shall have the right to erect reasonable and appropriate signs. 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. No advertising, directional or vendor signs shall be permitted within the Community except as authorized by the Declarant under Article XIII, Section 14 of this Declaration.

Section 7. <u>Vehicles</u>. No Owner or occupant may park more than three (3) vehicles outside of the garage on any Lot at any time without prior written Board approval; provided, however, this provision shall not prohibit an Owner or occupant from having guests or service vehicles park in the Community if otherwise in compliance with this Section 7.

The term "vehicles" as used in this provision, shall include, without limitation, motor homes, boats, trailers, motorcycles, mini-bikes, scooters, go-carts, campers, buses, vans, recreational vehicles, trucks, commercial type vehicles, and automobiles. The parking of any vehicle in a yard is prohibited. Operable automobiles, passenger vans

and non-commercial type trucks must be parked within the garage or driveway of Lot and are not allowed to park in the street. If there is not sufficient room in the garage or driveway of the Lot, then visitors are allowed to park in the street for periods of less than twelve (12) hours. The doors of garages shall be kept closed at all times, except during times of entry and exit from the garage, or when someone is working or playing in or around the garage. Boats, trailers, motorcycles, mini-bikes, scooters, go-carts, recreational vehicles, trucks, small commercial-type vehicles, motor homes, and any inoperable vehicle, automobile, truck, or van must be stored within the garage and the door of the garage must remain closed except during times of ingress and egress. Buses, recreational vehicles, motor homes, and large commercial type vehicles (ones that cannot fit within the garage), eight wheel trucks, truck cabs, or trucks with a load capacity in excess of three-quarters (3/4) of a ton are prohibited from being parked, stored, or kept anywhere within the Lot, dwelling, subdivision, or community, except with written approval of the Board or Declarant.

No vehicle may be left upon any portion of the Community, except in a garage or other area designated by the Board, for a period longer than seventy-two (72) hours if it is unlicensed or if it is in a condition so that it cannot operate on public streets. Moving vans and service or delivery vehicles may be parked in the Community for such period of time as reasonably necessary to provide such service to residents in the Community.

If any vehicle is parked on any portion of the Property in violation of this subparagraph to in violation of the Association's rules and regulations, the Board may place a notice on the vehicle specifying the nature of the violation and stating that after twenty-four (24) hours the vehicle may be towed. The notice shall include the name and telephone number of a person to contact regarding the alleged violation. A notice also shall be conspicuously placed at the Property stating the name and telephone number of the person or entity which will do the towing and/or booting hereunder. If twenty-four (24) hours after such notice is placed on the vehicle the violation continues or thereafter occurs again within six (6) months of such notice, the vehicle may be towed or booted in accordance with the notice, without further notice to the vehicle owner or user.

Section 8. Leasing. Lots may be leased for residential purposes only. All leases shall have a minimum term of six (6) months and a copy of all leases shall be given to the Board of Directors by the Owner of the Lot within thirty (30) days of entering into the lease. All leases shall require, that the tenant acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Declaration, Bylaws, use restrictions, and rules and regulations of the Association and shall also obligate the tenant to comply with these documents.

The Owner transfers and assigns to the lessee, for the term of the lease, any and all rights and privileges that the Owner has to use the Common Property of the Association, including, but not limited to the use of any and all recreational facilities and other amenities.

Section 9. Occupants Bound. All provisions of the Declaration, Bylaws, and of any rules and regulations, use restrictions or design guidelines adopted pursuant to the Declaration which govern the conduct of Owners and which provide for sanctions against Owners shall also apply to all occupants of Lots and guests and invitees of occupants or Owners. The Owner shall be responsible for insuring that the occupant, and the guests, invitees and licensees of the Owner or the occupant strictly comply with all provisions of the Declaration, Bylaws, and any rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors. Fines may be levied against Owners or occupants. If a fine is first levied against an occupant and is not paid timely, the fine may then be levied against the Owner.

Section 10. 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 a reasonable number of domestic pets including dogs, cats, or other usual and common household pets, as may be determined in the discretion of the Board. No pets shall be kept, bred or maintained for any commercial purpose. No structure for the housing, care or confinement of any animal or pet shall be constructed, placed or altered on any Lot unless plans are approved by the ACC as provided in Article X hereof. Pet owners shall not allow pets to roam unattended. Dogs shall at all times whenever they are outside be on a leash of reasonable length (as determined by the Board) held by a responsible person or confined within a physically fenced-in yard or otherwise confined in a manner acceptable to the Board. The fenced-in area must remain closed and locked at all times. The fence must be approved by the Architectural Control Committee as provided in Article X of this Declaration. All Owners and occupants keeping pets within the Community shall comply with all applicable governmental ordinances and regulations. Animal control authorities shall be permitted to enter the Community to patrol and remove pets. Pets shall be registered, licensed and inoculated as required by law. If a pet leaves feces on any

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portion of the Community other than the pet owner's Lot, the pet owner will be responsible for its removal. If not removed immediately, a fine may be levied by the Board.

No pit bulldogs or other dogs determined in the sole discretion of the Board to be dangerous dogs may be brought onto or kept on the Property at any time by any Lot Owner, Occupant, or guest of an Owner or Occupant. A pet owner shall muzzle any pet that consistently barks or makes loud noises. Any pet which endangers the health of any Owner or Occupant of any Lot or which creates a nuisance or unreasonable disturbance, as may be determined in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors, must be permanently removed from the Property upon seven (7) days' written notice by the Board of Directors. Any pet which, in the sole discretion of the Board, presents an immediate danger to the health, safety or property of any member of the Community may be removed by the Board without prior notice to the pet's owner.

Any Owner or Occupant who keeps or maintains any pet on any portion of the Properties shall be deemed to have indemnified and agreed to hold the Association, its directors, officers, and agents free and harmless from any loss, claim or liability of any kind or character whatever arising by reason of keeping or maintaining such pet within the Properties

Section 11. Prohibition of Damage, Nuisance and Noise. Without prior written Board consent, nothing shall be done or kept on the Property which would be in violation of any statute, rule, ordinance, regulation, permit or other validly imposed requirements of any governmental body, or which would increase the Common Expenses.

Noxious, destructive, offensive or unsanitary activity shall not be carried on upon the Property. No Owner or Occupant may use or allow the use of the Lot or any portion of the Property at any time, in any way, which may endanger the health or property of other Occupants, unreasonably annoy, disturb or cause embarrassment or discomfort to other Owners or Occupants, or, in the Board's discretion, constitute a nuisance. The intention of this provision is to grant the Association and aggrieved Owners and Occupants a right of redress for actions, activities or conduct which unreasonably disturbs or impairs the peaceful and safe enjoyment of the Property. In this regard, specific unauthorized and unreasonable annoyances or disturbances shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (i) Any screaming, shouting, excessively loud talking, whistling, or playing of music or television either outside of a Lot at any time or within a Lot if such conduct can be heard in the normal course of activities in a dwelling on any other Lot;
- (ii) Any fighting, raucous behavior or insobriety either outside of a Lot at any time or within a Lot if such conduct can be heard in the normal course of activities in a dwelling on any other Lot;
- (iii) The use of any alarm, equipment, or devise, mechanical or otherwise, which creates or produces excessively loud sounds or any vibrations either outside of a Lot at any time or within a Lot if such sounds can be heard or vibrations felt in the normal course of activities in a dwelling on any other Lot;
- (iv) Speakers, horns, sirens, whistles, bells, amplifiers or other sound devices, except as such devices may be used exclusively for security purposes;
- (v) Any threatening or intimidating conduct towards any resident, guest or pet at the Property;
- (vi) Any conduct which, in the Board's reasonable discretion, creates any danger or risk of injury to others or damage to property at the Property or which creates any threat to health or safety of any other resident or pet;
- (vii) Any excessively loud play or playground activities either outside of a Lot at any time or within a Lot if such conduct can be heard in the normal course of activities in a dwelling on any other Lot;

- (viii) Any conduct which creates any noxious or offensive odor either outside of a Lot at any time or within a Lot if such odors can be detected in the normal course of activities in a dwelling on any other Lot;
- (ix) Any similar action or activity outside of a Lot on the Property, or which occurs inside a Lot but which interferes with the peaceful use and enjoyment of other Lots or the Common Area by any other Owner, members of his or her family, guests, invitees, or Occupants of his or her Lot; or
- (x) Any construction or similar activities in a Lot which can be heard in other Lots between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:30 a.m.

However, nothing herein shall be construed to affect the rights of an aggrieved Owner or Occupant to proceed individually against a violator hereof for relief from interference with his or her property or personal rights, and the Board may, in its discretion, require aggrieved individuals to seek redress personally for interference with their personal property rights before the Association intervenes and commences enforcement action hereunder. No claim for any loss, damage or otherwise shall exist by an aggrieved Owner or Occupant against the Association for failure to enforce the provisions hereof if the aggrieved Owner or Occupant has not personally pursued all available remedies against the violator for redress provided under Georgia law.

No Unit Owner or Occupant may use or allow the use of the Lot or the Common Areas in any manner which creates noises between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. which can be heard by persons in another Lot that will, in the Board's sole discretion, unreasonably interfere with the rights, comfort or convenience of any other Owner, members of his or her family, guests, invitees, or Occupants of his or her Lot.

No Owner, Occupant or agent of such Owner or Occupant shall do any work which, in the Board's reasonable opinion, would jeopardize the soundness or safety of the Property or any structure thereon, would reduce the value thereof, or would impair any easement or other interest in the Property, without prior written consent of all Association members and their Mortgagees.

No damage to or waste of the Common Areas, or any part thereof, shall be permitted by any Owner or any Occupant, guest or invitee of any Owner. Each Owner and Occupant shall indemnify and hold the Association and the other Owners harmless against all loss to the Association or other Owners resulting from any such damage or waste caused by such Owner or Occupant, or the Owner's or Occupant's guest or invitee:

Section 12. <u>Unsightly or Unkempt Conditions</u>. The pursuit of hobbies or other activities which might tend to cause disorderly, unsightly, or unkempt conditions, including without limitation, the changing of oil or the assembly and disassembly of motor vehicles and other mechanical devices, shall not be pursued or undertaken in any part of the Community except within garages located on Lots.

Section 13. Antennas and Satellite Dishes. Except as provided below, no satellite dish, antenna or other device for the transmission or reception of television signals, radio signals or any form of electromagnetic wave or radiation shall be erected, used or maintained outdoors on any portion of the Community, whether attached to a home or structure or otherwise. The following shall apply to all Lots:

No transmission antenna, of any kind, may be erected anywhere on the Community without written approval of the Board of Directors or the Architectural Control Committee.

No direct broadcast satellite (DBS) antenna or multi-channel multi-point distribution service MMDS) antenna larger than one meter in diameter shall be placed, allowed, or maintained upon any portion of the Community, including a Lot.

DBS and MMDS satellite dishes or antennas one meter or less in diameter and television broadcast service antennas may only be installed in accordance with Federal Communication Commission (FCC) rules and the rules and regulations of the Association authorized by the FCC, both as may be amended from time to time. Such items shall be installed in the least conspicuous location available on the Lot which permits reception of an acceptable signal

In the event of a transfer of the Lot which includes the satellite dish or antenna, the Grantee shall assume all responsibility for the satellite dish or antenna and shall comply with this Declaration, the Bylaws and the rules and regulations regarding satellite dishes and antennas, including, but not limited to, those requirements relating to maintenance and removal of satellite dish or antenna.

Section 14. Tree Removal. No trees having a diameter of six (6) inches or more and a height of more than eight (8) feet above the ground shall be removed without the written approval of the Architectural Control Committee, as appropriate, except for (a) diseased or dead trees; (b) trees needing to be removed to promote the growth of other trees or for safety reasons; and (c) trees within ten (10) feet of the residence, driveway, walkways constructed or to be constructed on the Lot. An Owner must provide three (3) days written notice for trees warranting removal pursuant to the exceptions noted above and shall provide the necessary documentation warranting removal. The Board or Declarant may require replacement of removed dead or diseased trees.

Section 15. 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 of a Lot may obstruct or rechannel the drainage flows after location and installation of drainage swales, storm sewers, or storm drains. Declarant hereby reserves a perpetual easement across all Community Property for the purpose of altering drainage and water flow, removing temporary siltation ponds and for removing debris and siltation generally throughout the community. Rights exercised pursuant to this reserved easement shall be exercised with a minimum of interference to the quiet enjoyment of affected property, reasonable steps shall be taken to protect such property, and damage shall be repaired by the Person causing the damage at its sole expense. No landscaping, fencing or wall is permitted that causes rainwater or surface water to be diverted to another Lot. Association does not guarantee effectiveness of drainage or drainage measures, and affected owners must pursue owners creating the condition and not the Association.

Section 16. Sight Distance at Intersections. Except during the period of initial construction, all property located at street intersections and at the intersections of streets and driveways shall be landscaped so as to permit safe sight across the corners. No fence, wall, hedge, or shrub planting shall be placed or permitted to remain at elevations above two (2') feet above the roadways and shall be placed or permitted to remain on any corner Lot within the triangular area formed by the street property line connecting them at points twenty-five (25') feet from the intersection of the street lines, or in the case of a rounded property corner line, from the intersection of the street property lines extended. The same sight limitations shall apply on any Lot within ten (10') feet of a street property line with a driveway.

Section 17. Garbage and Refuse Disposal. All garbage cans shall be located so as to be screened or concealed from view of neighboring Lots, the Common Property and the street on which the Lot fronts. Only on the day of garbage pick-up may the containers be left in the open. In no event may garbage containers be left out more than forty-eight (48) continuous hours. All construction debris, rubbish, trash, and garbage shall be regularly removed and shall not be allowed to accumulate.

Section 18. Clotheslines, Woodpiles, Baskethall Equipment, Etc. All woodpiles, swimming pool pumps, filters and related equipment and other similar items shall be located or screened so as to be concealed from view of neighboring Lots, the Common Property and the street on which the Lot (on which the item is located) fronts. No outside clotheslines shall be erected or placed on any Lot. No laundry shall be hung on any Lot to dry if it is visible from any street in the Community. Basketball hoops and goals shall not be attached to the exterior portion of any house, garage or other building structure constructed on a Lot or placed on any other portion of the Lot except as provided below. Notwithstanding the above, free standing basketball poles, goals and backboards may be erected immediately adjacent to the driveway on a Lot provided that they are set back at least twenty-five (25') feet from the front of the Lot, are located on the neighbors side of the Lot, the poles are metal and painted black or such other color as is approved by the Architectural Control Committee, as appropriate and the goal and backboard are kept in good condition (nets may not be torn or missing) and the basketball equipment must be manufactured and not home-made. Portable basketballs shall be permitted, so long as they are stored in the garage when not in use.

Section 19. <u>Subdivision of Lot</u>. No Lot shall be subdivided or its boundary lines changed except with the prior written approval of the Board or its designee. Declarant, however, hereby expressly reserves the right to

re-plat any Lot or Lots owned by Declarant. Any such division, boundary line change, or re-platting shall not be in violation of the applicable subdivision and zoning regulations.

Section 20. Firearms and Fireworks. The display or discharge of firearms or fireworks on the Common Property is prohibited; provided, however, that the display of lawful firearms on the Common Property is permitted for the limited purpose of transporting the firearms across the Common Property to or from the Owner's Lot. The term "firearms" includes "B-B" guns, pellet guns, and other firearms of all types, regardless of size. The term "fireworks" shall include those items as listed in O.C.G.A. Section 25-10-1.

Section 21. Storage Buildings or Sheds. No storage buildings or sheds shall be permitted without the prior written consent of the Architectural Control Committee. Applications shall be submitted in accordance with Article X of this Declaration. The Architectural Control Committee may require that all or part of the storage building be painted and may require particular materials, locations and sizes, in order to preserve architectural harmony within the Community.

Section 22. Fences. No fence or fencing-type barrier of any kind shall be placed, erected, allowed, or maintained upon any portion of the Community, including any Lot, without the prior written consent of the Architectural Control Committee or Declarant. The Declarant or Architectural Control Committee may issue guidelines detailing acceptable fence styles or specifications. No type of chain link fencing shall be permitted except on the Common Property. Applications shall be submitted in accordance with Article X of this Declaration. The Declarant or Architectural Control Committee may require that all or part of the fencing be painted in order to preserve architectural harmony within the subdivision.

Section 23. Air Conditioning Units. No window air conditioning units may be installed. Condensing units for air conditioners shall only be located in the rear or along the side of a residence constructed upon a Lot.

Section 24. Lighting. Except for seasonal Christmas decorative lights, all exterior lights must be approved by the Architectural Centrol Committee, as appropriate.

Section 25. Artificial Vegetation, Exterior Sculpture, and Similar Items. No artificial vegetation shall be permitted on the exterior of any property. Exterior sculptures, fountains, flags, benches, birdhouses, lawn chairs, and similar items require approval by the Architectural Control Committee.

Section 26. 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 and are approved by the Declarant or Architectural Control Committee.

Section 27. Swimming Pools and Spas. No pools or spa shall be erected, constructed, or installed on any Lot unless its design, location and placement are approved by the Architectural Control Committee.

Section 28. Standard Mailboxes. All residences in the Community shall have one standard mailbox and mail box post conforming to postal regutations and the guidelines for such mailboxes adopted by the Declarant or Architectural Control Committee. Mailboxes and mailbox posts must be of a type consistent with the character of other mailboxes and mailbox posts within the subdivision. Any changes to mailboxes or mailposts must receive the prior written approval of the Architectural Control Committee. After seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration in Gwinnett County, Georgia land records, the Board may determine that a change in standards in the Community requires a change in the standard mailbox, and may require the Owners to replace mailboxes and posts to conform to the new standard.

Section 29. Playground Equipment on Common Property and on Lots. Any playground or other play areas or equipment located on the Common Property shall be used at the risk of the user, and the Association shall not be held liable to any Person for any claim, damage, or injury occurring thereon or related to use thereof. Any playground equipment on Lots shall be installed in the area between the rear of the dwelling and the rear Lot line.

Section 30. Abandoned Personal Property. Personal property, except for personal property owned by the Association, is strictly prohibited from being stored, kept, or allowed to remain for a period of more than twenty-four (24) hours upon any portion of the Common Property or on the rights-of-way located within the Community. If the Board or its designee, in its sole discretion, determines that property is kept, stored, or allowed to remain on the Common Property or on the rights-of-way located within the Community in violation of this Section, then the Board may remove and either discard or store the personal property in a location which the Board may determine. If personal property is removed in accordance with this Section, neither the Association nor any officer or agent of the Association shall be liable to any Person for any claim of damage resulting from the removal activity. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Board may elect to impose fines or use other available sanctions, rather than exercise its authority to remove abandoned or improperly stored personal property, as set forth herein, and the Board may immediately remove any unauthorized signs or any item presenting a health or safety risk located on Common Property.

Section 31. Window Treatments. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Board of Directors, all windows which are part of a Lot shall have standard window treatments and any portion thereof visible from outside the dwelling shall be white or off-white in color or a color approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 32. Sidewalks, Driveways and Parking Pads. Driveways must be kept in good condition. Any large, noticeable cracks or holes must be repaired promptly. In addition, all large, noticeable oil spills or stains must be cleaned promptly. Determination of the condition of driveways and/or pads shall be solely at the discretion of the Board. If applicable, the Owner of any Lot that has a sidewalk installed by Declarant or an Approved Builder shall maintain and, if necessary, professionally repair any significant damage to the portion of the sidewalk on the Owner's Lot. No Owner may remove a sidewalk across the front of his Lot. No parking shall be permitted which blocks the use of the sidewalk by other Lot Owners and occupants of Lots.

Section 33. Temporary Structures. No structure of a temporary character, trailer, basement, tent, shack, garage, barn, or other out-building shall be used on any Lot at any time as a residence either temporarily or permanently. No house trailers or mobile homes are permitted. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Declarant, or any of its assigns, may use a Lot for the operation of a sales or construction office as provided in Article XIII, Section 14 of this Declaration.

Section 34. Lawn and Yard Care. All yards shall be maintained in a neat and orderly condition, which shall include removal of leaves, broken limbs, dead trees and other debris as necessary. All front yards must have sodded grass. All lawns must be regularly cut (general grass height may not exceed seven (7") inches) and maintained (no noticeable weed problem).

Section 35. Oil and Mining Operations. No oil drilling, oil development operations, oil refining or mining operations of any kind shall be permitted upon or in any Lot; nor shall oil wells, tanks, tunnels, mineral excavations or shafts be permitted upon any Lot. No derrick or other structure designed for use in boring for oil or natural gas shall be erected, maintained or permitted upon any Lot.

#### Article VII.

#### Insurance and Casualty Losses

Section 1. Insurance on Common Property. The Association's Board of Directors or its duly authorized agent shall have the authority to and shall obtain insurance for all insurable improvements on the Common Property and other property, if any, 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.

The Board shall obtain a public 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 (\$1,000,000.00) Dollars.

The Board is authorized to contract with or otherwise arrange to obtain the required insurance coverage through the Declarant and to reimburse Declarant for the cost. Declarant shall be authorized, but not obligated, to purchase the required insurance coverage for the benefit of the Association and the Owners. The coverage shall include the Association as a named insured. The Declarant and Association shall agree upon the terms and conditions applicable to reimbursement by the Association for costs incurred by Declarant in obtaining the required coverage.

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

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. The amount of fidelity coverage shall be determined in the directors' best business judgment, but if reasonably available, shall not be less than three (3) months assessments plus a reasonable amount to cover all or a reasonable portion of reserve funds in the custody of the Association at any time during the term of the bond; provided, however, fidelity coverage herein required may be reduced based on financial controls which take one or more of the following forms: (a) the Association or management company, if any, maintains a separate bank account for the working account and the reserve account, each with appropriate access controls and the bank in which funds are deposited sends copies of the monthly bank statements directly to the Association; (b) the management company, if any, maintains separate records and bank accounts for each association that uses its services and the management company does not have the authority to draw checks on, or to transfer funds from, the Association's reserve account; or (c) two members of the Board of Directors must sign any checks written on the reserve account. Bonds shall contain a waiver of all defenses based upon the exclusion of persons serving without compensation and may not be canceled, subjected to nonrenewal or substantially modified without at least thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the Association. The Association shall also obtain construction code endorsements, and flood insurance, if and to the extent necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation or the Federal National Mortgage Association.

### Section 2. 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 of Directors or its duly authorized agent shall proceed with the filing and adjustment of all claims covered 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.
- (b) Repair and Reconstruction. The Board of Directors must proceed to repair or reconstruct any damage or destruction to the Common Property on behalf of the Association unless within sixty (60) days after the casualty, it obtains the agreement of at least seventy-five (75%) percent of the total Association vote, the Declarant (so long as the Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first) to not repair or reconstruct. 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 as provided above shall have the right to participate in the determination of whether damage or destruction shall be repaired or reconstructed.

If the damage or destruction for which the insurance proceeds are paid is not sufficient to cover the cost of repair or reconstruction, the Board of Directors 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.

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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 retained by and for the benefit of the Association in an Association account.

In the event that it should be determined in the manner described above that the damage or destruction shall not be repaired or reconstructed and no alternative improvements are authorized, then the property shall be restored to its natural state and maintained as an undeveloped portion of the Community by the Association in a neat and attractive condition.

Section 3. Damage and Destruction to Improvements on Lots. The damage or destruction by fire or other casualty to all or any portion of any improvement on a Lot shall be repaired by the Owner within seventy-five (75) days after the damage or destruction. However, where repairs cannot be completed within seventy-five (75) days, they shall begin within the required period and shall be diligently and continuously pursued until their completion. Alternatively, the Owner may decide to demolish and remove all damaged improvements on the Lot and sod the Lot, within seventy-five (75) days after such damage or destruction and maintain the property in a neat and clean condition consistent with the Community-Wide Standard.

#### Article VIII.

#### Condemnation

In the event of a taking by eminent domain of any portion of the Common Property on which improvements have been constructed, then, unless within sixty (60) days after the taking, Owners holding at least seventy-five (75%) percent of the total Association vote other than Declarant and the Declarant (so long as the Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first) otherwise agree, the Association shall restore or replace the improvements taken on the remaining land included in the Common Property to the extent lands are available. The provisions of Article VII, Section 2, above, applicable to Common Property improvements damage, shall govern replacement or restoration and the actions to be taken in the event that the improvements are not restored or replaced.

#### Article IX.

#### Annexation of Additional Property

#### Section 1. Unilateral Annexation By Declarant.

- (a) As the owner or, if not the owner, with the consent of the owner. Declarant shall have the unilateral right, privilege, and option from time to time at any time until seven (7) years after the recording of this Declaration to subject all or any portion of the real property described in Exhibit "C" attached and made a part of this Declaration, to the provisions of this Declaration and the jurisdiction of the Association by filing for record in the Gwinnett County, Georgia, records a Supplementary Declaration describing the property being annexed. Any annexation shall be effective upon the filing for record of a Supplementary Declaration, unless a different effective date is provided in the Supplementary Declaration. As long as covenants applicable to the real property previously subjected to this Declaration are not changed and as long as rights of then Owners are not adversely affected, the Declarant, with the consent of the holder of the Existing First Mortgage, may unilaterally amend this Declaration to reflect the different character of any annexed real property.
- (b) The rights reserved to Declarant to subject additional land to the Declaration shall not impose any obligation upon Declarant to subject any of such additional land to this Declaration or to the jurisdiction of the Association. If such additional land is not subjected to this Declaration, Declarant's reserved rights shall not impose any obligation on Declarant to impose any covenants and restrictions similar to those contained in the Declaration upon the additional land.

Section 2. Other Annexation. Subject to the consent of the owner and the consent of the Declarant (so long as the Declarant has an option to subject additional property to this Declaration as provided above), upon the affirmative vote, or written consent, or any combination thereof, of Owners holding a Majority of the total Association vote and with the approval of the owner thereof, the Association may annex real property to the provisions of this Declaration and the jurisdiction of the Association by filing for record in the Gwinnett County, Georgia, records a Supplementary Declaration describing the property being annexed. Any such Supplementary Declaration shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the Association, and any such annexation shall be effective upon the filing for record of such Supplementary Declaration, unless otherwise provided in the Supplementary Declaration.

Section 3. Withdrawal of Property. Declarant reserves the right to amend this Declaration unilaterally at any time so long as it holds an unexpired option to expand the Community pursuant to this Article, without prior notice and without the consent of any Person, for the purpose of removing certain portions of the Community then owned by the Declarant or its affiliates from the provisions of this Declaration to the extent originally included in error or as a result of any changes whatsoever in the plans for the Community desired to be effected by the Declarant.

#### Article X.

#### **Architectural Standards**

Section 1. Architectural Control Committee. No exterior construction, addition, erection, or alteration shall be made upon any part of the Community 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 the Declarant or an Architectural Control Committee. For purposes of this section, a change in the paint color of a home or other exterior redecorating shall be considered an exterior alteration. However, no approval shall be required for any construction, alteration or addition made by the Declarant. Until one hundred (100%) percent of the Community has been developed and conveyed to purchasers in the normal course of development and sale, the Declarant shall have the right to appoint all members of the Architectural Control Committee. There shall be no surrender of this right prior to that time except in a written instrument in recordable form executed by Declarant. After the Declarant's right to appoint has expired, the Board of Directors shall appoint the members of the Architectural Control Committee, or may adopt a resolution making the Board of Directors the Architectural Control Committee. The Board may employ for the Architectural Control Committee architects, engineers, or other Persons necessary to enable the Committee to perform its review. The Declarant or Architectural Control Committee may, from time to time, delegate any of its rights or responsibilities hereunder to one (I) or more duly licensed architects or other qualified Persons, who shall have full authority to act en behalf of the Committee for all matters delegated. The Architectural Control Committee may, in its discretion, from time to time establish, abolish or amend standards to govern the development of Lots and the design and construction of improvements. The text of such standards and amendments shall be available to each Owner. Such standards shall be binding upon all Owners. A review fee in a reasonable amount may be charged.

Notwithstanding the above, if prior to development of one hundred (100%) percent of the Community, the Declarant should relinquish its right to appoint all members of the Architectural Control Committee, then the requirements of this Article X shall no longer apply to Approved Builders.

The primary purpose of these architectural controls is to protect and preserve property values in the subdivision by maintaining architectural and aesthetic harmony and compatibility among the Lots and the structures on the Lots in the Community. The architectural controls and standards may be designed and applied to reflect that Lots within the Community are of varying sizes, topographies and locations, and that improvements and modifications suitable for one Lot may be inappropriate for another Lot. Therefore, the Declarant or Architectural Control Committee is authorized to apply or adopt different standards for different Lots to reflect the varying sizes and layouts of Lots within the Community. Specifically, the Committee may, for example, allow an improvement, modification or change which cannot be seen from any street or other Lot within the Community at any time during the year, including winter, but prohibit the same change if it can be seen from any street or other Lot within the Community.

Section 2. Guidelines and Procedures. The Declarant may prepare the initial design and development guidelines and application and review procedures (the "Design Guidelines"), which shall be applicable to all construction activities within the Community. The Design Guidelines may contain general provisions applicable to all

of the Community, as well as specific provisions which vary from one portion of the Community to another depending upon the location, unique characteristics, and intended use.

The Architectural Control Committee shall adopt such Design Guidelines at its initial organizational meeting and, thereafter shall have sole and full authority to amend them from time to time, without the consent of the Owners.

The Architectural Control Committee shall make the Design Guidelines available to Owners, builders, and developers who seek to engage in development of or construction upon all of any portion of the Community and all such Persons shall conduct their activities in strict accordance with such Design Guidelines. In the discretion of the Declarant, such Design Guidelines may be recorded in the Gwinnett County, Georgia records, in which event the recorded version, as it may unilaterally be amended from time to time by the Architectural Control Committee by recordation of amendments thereto, shall control in the event of any dispute as to which version of the Design Guidelines was in effect at any particular time.

Any amendments to the Design Guidelines adopted from time to time by the Architectural Control Committee in accordance with this Section shall apply to construction and modifications approved after the date of such amendment only, and shall not apply to plans or specifications previously approved or require modifications to or removal of structures previously approved by the Architectural Control Committee.

If the Board or ACC fails to approve or to disapprove such application within forty-five (45) days after the application and all information as the Board or ACC may reasonably require have been submitted, then the Owner submitting the application may issue written notice, by certified mail, to the Association president, informing of the Owner's intent to proceed with the modification as identified in the application, unless the Association issues a written disapproval of the application within ten (10) days of receipt of the Owner's notice: If the Board fails to issue such written disapproval within that ten (10) day period, then its approval will not be required and this subsection will be deemed complied with as to the items specifically identified in the application; provided, however, even if the requirements of this subsection are satisfied, nothing herein shall authorize anyone to construct or maintain any structure or improvement that is otherwise in violation of the Declaration, Bylaws or Association rules, or of any applicable zoning or other laws.

The Architectural Control Committee, Board and Declarant shall be the only judges of the plans with regard to the requirements of this Article and may withhold approval for any reason, including purely aesthetic considerations. Any request in substantial compliance with the published Design Guidelines shall be approved; provided, however, each such requested change shall be in harmony with the external design of the existing buildings and Lots and the location in relation to surrounding structures and topography of the vicinity.

Section 3. Disclaimer. The Declarant, Architectural Control Committee, and Board of Directors do not warrant or represent, that their decisions under this Article constitute, and their decisions shall not be interpreted as constituting, an approval as to compliance with any building code, regulation or ordinance, or any other code, regulation ordinance or law, nor that their decisions under this Article reflect upon the structural integrity of any proposed alteration or improvement.

Section 4. No Waiver. The approval of the Architectural Control Committee, Board, or Declarant of any proposals, plans and specifications, or drawings, shall not constitute a waiver of any right to withhold approval or consent as to any similar proposals, plans and specifications, drawings, or other matters later submitted for approval or consent.

#### Section 5. Variances.

(a) The Declarant, Board, or Architectural Control Committee may authorize variances from compliance with any of its guidelines and procedures when circumstances such as topography, natural obstructions. hardship, or aesthetic or environmental considerations require, but only in accordance with duly adopted rules and regulations. Variances may only be granted, however, when unique circumstances dictate and no variance shall (a) be effective unless in writing, (b) be contrary to the restrictions set forth in the body of this Declaration, or (c) prevent the

Committee, Board or Declarant from denying a variance in other circumstances. For purposes of this Section, the inability to obtain approval of any governmental agency, the issuance of any permit, or the terms of any financing shall not be considered a hardship warranting a variance.

These variances shall not constitute a waiver by the Declarant, Committee or Board of the right to adopt and enforce architectural standards under this Article. No decision by the Committee, Declarant or Board-shall constitute a binding precedent with respect to subsequent decisions by them. However, nothing in this Article shall permit the Declarant, Committee or the Board to enforce retroactively its architectural standards against a Lot Owner whose architectural change has been approved under the architectural standards of the Declarant or a previous Committee or Board.

Section 6. Commencement of Construction. All changes, modifications and improvements approved by the Declarant, Board or Architectural Control Committee hereunder must be commenced within one (1) year from the date of approval. If not commenced within one (1) year from the date of such approval, then such approval shall be deemed automatically revoked, unless the Declarant, Board or Architectural Control Committee gives a written extension for commencing the work. All work approved hereunder shall be completed in its entirety within ninety (90) days from the date of commencement, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Declarant, Board or Architectural Control Committee. All approved changes, modifications, and improvements must be completed in their entirety. An Owner may not construct only a portion or part of an approved change, modification, or improvement.

Section 7. Enforcement. The Declarant, Board or Architectural Control Committee shall be entitled to stop any construction in violation of these restrictions. Any member of the Declarant or 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 restrictive covenants have been or are being complied with. Such Person(s) shall not be deemed guilty of trespass by reason of such entry.

Any construction, alteration, or other work done in violation of this Article shall be deemed to be nonconforming. Upon written request from the Board or the Architectural Control Committee, Owners shall, at their own cost and expense, remove such construction, alteration, or other work and shall restore the property to substantially the same condition as existed prior to the construction, alteration, or other work. Should an Owner fail to remove and restore as required hereunder, the Board or its designees shall have the right to enter the property, remove the violation and restore the property to substantially the same condition as existed prior to the construction, alteration or other work. All costs thereof, including reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred, may be assessed against the benefited Lot and collected as an assessment pursuant to this Declaration.

In addition to the foregoing, the Board of Directors shall have the authority and standing, on behalf of the Association, to impose reasonable fines and to pursue all legal and equitable remedies available to enforce the provisions of this Article and its decisions. Furthermore, the Board shall have the authority to record in the Gwinnett County land records notices of violation of the provisions of this Article.

If any Owner or occupant makes any exterior change, alteration, or construction (including landscaping) upon the Common Property in violation of this Article, he or she does so at his or her sole risk and expense. The Board may require that the change, alteration or construction be removed or that it remain on the Common Property without reimbursement to the Owner or occupant for any expense he or she may have incurred in making the change, alteration or construction.

Section 8. Special Requirements. Plans and specifications will not be approved unless the residence to be erected on the Lot complies with the minimum zoning requirements and special conditions of Gwinnett County, Georgia under the zoning classification for the Lot on the day building permits are purchased.

#### Article XI.

#### **Mortgagee Provisions**

The following provisions are for the benefit of holders of first Mortgages on Lots in the Community. The provisions of this Article apply to both this Declaration and to the Bylaws, notwithstanding any other provisions contained therein.

- Section 1. Notices of Action. An institutional holder, insurer, or guarantor of a first Mortgage, who provides a written request to the Association (such request to state the name and address of such holder, insurer, or guarantor and the Lot number) (therefore becoming an "eligible holder") will be entitled to timely written notice of:
- (a) any condemnation loss or any casualty loss which affects a material portion of the Community or which affects any Lot on which there is a first Mortgage held, insured, or guaranteed by such eligible holder;
- (b) any delinquency in the payment of assessments or charges owed by an Owner of a Lot subject to the Mortgage of such eligible holder, where such delinquency has continued for a period of sixty (60) days; provided, however, notwithstanding this provision, any holder of a first Mortgage, upon request, is entitled to written notice from the Association of any default in the performance by an Owner of a Lot of any obligation under the Declaration or Bylaws of the Association which is not cured within sixty (60) days;
- (c) any lapse, cancellation, or material modification of any insurance policy maintained by the Association; or
- (d) any proposed action which would require the consent of a specified percentage of Mortgage holders.
- Section 2. <u>Approval of Action</u>. Unless two-thirds (2/3) of the first Mortgagees and Owners other than the Declarant give their consent, the Association shall not:
- by act or omission seek to abandon, partition, subdivide, encumber, sell, or transfer, the Common Property which the Association owns, directly or indirectly (the granting of easements for public utilities or other similar purposes consistent with the intended use of the Common Property shall not be deemed a transfer within the meaning of this subsection) other than personal property of the Association;
- (b) change the method of determining the obligations, assessments, dues, or other charges which may be levied against an Owner;
- (c) by act or omission change, waive, or abandon any scheme of regulations or enforcement thereof pertaining to the architectural design or the exterior appearance and maintenance of Lots and of the Common Property (The issuance and amendment of architectural standards, procedures, rules, and regulations or use restrictions shall not constitute a change, waiver, or abandonment within the meaning of this subsection.);
  - (d) fail to maintain insurance, as required by this Declaration; or
- (e) use hazard insurance proceeds for any Common Property losses for other than the repair, replacement, or reconstruction of such property.

Nothing contained in this Section 2 shall be construed to reduce the percentage vote that must otherwise be obtained under the Declaration for any of the acts set out in this Section 2.

First Mortgagees may, jointly or singly, pay taxes or other charges which are in default and which may or have become a charge against the Common Property and may pay overdue premiums on casualty insurance

policies or secure new casualty insurance coverage upon the lapse of an Association policy, and first Mortgagees making such payments shall be entitled to immediate reimbursement from the Association.

Section 3. No Priority. No provision of this Declaration or the Bylaws gives or shall be construed as giving any Owner or other party priority over any rights of the first Mortgagee of any Lot in the case of distribution to such Owner of insurance proceeds or condemnation awards for losses to or a taking of the Common Property.

Section 4. Notice to Association. Upon request, each Lot Owner shall be obligated to furnish to the Association the name and address of the holder of any Mortgage encumbering such Owner's Lot.

Section 5. Amendments by Board. Should the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation subsequently delete any of their respective requirements which necessitate the provisions of this Article or make any such requirements less stringent, the Board, without approval of the Owners, may cause an amendment to this Article to be recorded to reflect such changes.

Section 6. <u>VA/HIID Approval</u>. As long as the Declarant has the right to appoint and remove officers and directors of the Association, the following actions shall require the prior approval of the VA (so long as the VA is guaranteeing any Mortgage in the Community). and HUD (so long as HUD is insuring any Mortgage in the Community): annexation of additional property to the Community; mergers and consolidations; dedication of Common Property to any public entity; dissolution; mortgaging of Common Property, and material amendment of the Declaration, Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation.

Section 7. Applicability of This Article. Nothing contained in this Article shall be construed to reduce the percentage vote that must otherwise be obtained under the Declaration, Bylaws, or Georgia law for any of the acts set out in this Article.

Section 8. <u>Failure of Mortgagee to Respond</u>. Any Mortgagee who receives a written request from the Board to respond to or consent to any action shall be deemed to have approved such action if the Association does not receive a written response from the Mortgagee within thirty (30) days of the date of the Association's request.

#### Article XII.

#### Easements

Section 1. Easements for Encroachment and Overhang. There shall be reciprocal appurtenant easements for encroachment and overhang as between each Lot and adjacent portion of the Common Property or as between adjacent Lots due to the unintentional placement or settling or shifting of the improvements constructed, reconstructed, or altered (in accordance with the terms of this Declaration). The easement shall be five (5) feet, as measured from any point on the common boundary between each Lot and the adjacent portion of the Common Property or as between adjacent Lots, as the case may be along a line perpendicular to such boundary at such point. However, an easement for encroachment shall not exist if the willful conduct by an Owner, tenant, or the Association caused the encroachment.

### Section 2. Easements for Use and Enjoyment.

(a) Every Owner of a Lot shall have a right and easement of entry and exit, use and enjoyment in and to the Common Property which shall be appurtenant to and shall pass with the title to his Lot, subject to the following provisions:

i) The right of the Association to charge reasonable admission and other fees for the use of any portion of the Common Property, to limit the number of guests of Lot Owners and tenants who may use the Common Property, and to provide for the exclusive use and enjoyment of specific portions of the Common Property at certain designated times by an Owner, his or her family, tenants, guests, and invitees or by a separate group or entity;

- ii) the right of the Association to suspend the voting rights of a Lot Owner and the right of an Owner to use the recreational facilities available for use by the Community, if any, for any period during which any assessment against his Lot which is hereby provided for remains unpaid; and, for a reasonable period of time for a violation of the Declaration, Bylaws, or rules and regulations;
- iii) the right of the Association to borrow money for the purpose of improving the Common Property, or for constructing, repairing, or improving any facilities located or to be located on the Common Property, and to give as security for the payment of any such loan a Mortgage conveying all or any portion of the Common Property. However, the Mortgage given by the Association shall be subject and subordinate to any rights, interests, options, easements and privileges reserved or established for the benefit of Declarant, or any Lot or Lot Owner, or the holder of any Mortgage, irrespective of when executed, given by Declarant or any Lot Owner encumbering any Lot or other property located within the Community (Any provision in this Declaration or in any Mortgage given by the Association to the contrary notwithstanding, the exercise of any rights in the Mortgage by the holder of the Mortgage in the event of a default shall not cancel or terminate any rights, easements or privileges reserved or established in this Declaration for the benefit of Declarant, or any Lot or Lot Owner, or the holder of any Mortgage, irrespective of when executed, given by Declarant or any Lot Owner encumbering any Lot or other property located within the Community.) No mortgage conveying all or a portion of the Common Property shall be effective unless an instrument agreeing to the Mortgage has been approved by Owners holding at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total vote of the Association, by the Declarant (so long as the Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first); and-
- iv) the right of the Association to dedicate or transfer all or any portion of the Common Property subject to any conditions agreed on by the members of the Association. No dedication or transfer of the Common Property shall be effective unless an instrument agreeing to the dedication or transfer has been approved by Owners holding at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total Association vote, by the Declarant (so long as the Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first).
- (b) Any Lot Owner may delegate his right of use and enjoyment in and to the Common Property to the members of his family, his tenants and guests. An Owner shall be deemed to have made a delegation of all these rights to the occupants of the Owner's Lot, if leased.
- Section 3. Easements:for Utilities. There is reserved to the Declarant. Approved-Builders, and the Association blanket easements upon; across, above and under all property within the Community for access, ingress, egress, installation, repairing, replacing, and maintaining (a) all utilities serving the Community or any portion of the Common Property, including, but not limited to, gas, water, sanitary sewer, telephone and electricity, (b) water runoff and storm drainage systems, and (c) any other services such as, but not limited to, a master television antenna system, or cable television system which may be installed to serve the Community. It shall be expressly permissible for the Declarant, the Association, or the designee of either, to do or to authorize the installation, repairing, replacing, and maintaining of the wires, conduits, cables and other equipment related to providing any such utility or service. Should a party furnishing any such utility or service request a specific license or easement by separate recordable document, the Declarant or Board, as applicable, shall have the right to grant such easement.
- Section 4. Easement for Entry. In addition to the right of the Board to exercise self-help as provided in Article XIII, Section 2, the Board shall have the right, but not the obligation, to enter upon any property within the Community for emergency, security, and safety reasons. This right may also be exercised by the agents of the Association, and all policemen, firemen, ambulance personnel, and similar emergency personnel in the performance of their duties. Except in an emergency situation, entry shall only be during reasonable hours and after notice to the Owner, and the entering party shall be responsible for any damage caused. The Board shall have the right to enter to cure any condition which may increase the possibility of slope erosion, or other hazard if an Owner or occupant does not cure the condition after request by the Board.
- Section 5. Easement for Maintenance. Declarant expressly reserves a perpetual easement for the benefit of the Association across such portions of the Community, determined in the sole discretion of the Association, as are necessary to allow for the maintenance required under Article V, including, without limitation, an easement over

Lots on which landscape easements, sign easements or community entry features are located as shown on the plats for maintenance of the easement areas. This maintenance shall be performed with a minimum of interference to the quiet enjoyment to Owners' property, reasonable steps shall be taken to protect the property, and damage shall be repaired by the Person causing the damage at its sole expense.

#### Article XIII.

#### **General Provisions**

Section 1. Enforcement. Each Owner and every occupant of a Lot shall comply strictly with this Declaration, the Bylaws, the rules and regulations, as they may be lawfully amended or modified from time to time, and with any deed restrictions. The Board of Directors may impose fines or other sanctions, which shall be collected as provided for the collection of assessments. Fines shall be imposed pursuant to the procedure outlined in the Bylaws. Failure to comply with this Declaration, the Bylaws or the rules and regulations shall be grounds for an action for damages or injunctive relief, or both, maintainable by the Declarant, the Board of Directors (on behalf of the Association), or an aggrieved Owner (in a proper case). Failure by the Declarant, Association or any Owner to enforce any of the foregoing provisions shall not be a waiver of the right to enforce those provisions in the future.

Section 2. Self-Help. In addition to any other remedies, the Association or its duly authorized agent shall have the power to enter upon a Lot or any portion of the Common Property to abate or remove, using such force as may be reasonably necessary, any structure, thing or condition which violates this Declaration, the Bylaws, or the rules and regulations. All costs of self-help, including reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred shall be assessed against the violating Lot Owner and shall be collected as provided for the collection of assessments. Self-help will not be exercised to destruct or remove improvements without ten (10) days written notice.

Section 3. Duration. The covenants, restrictions and easements of this Declaration shall run with and bind the Community, and shall inure to the benefit of and shall be enforceable by the Association or any Owner, their respective legal representatives, heirs, successors, and assigns, perpetually to the extent permitted by law. However, so long as Georgia law limits the period during which covenants restricting lands to certain uses may run, any provision of this Declaration affected by the law shall nin with and bind the land so long as permitted by the law, after which time the provisions shall be automatically extended for successive periods of twenty (20) years, unless fifty-one (51%) percent of the persons owning Lots execute a document to terminate the covenants containing a legal description of the entire area affected by the covenant, a list of all owners affected by the covenant and a description of the covenant to be terminated or such other requirement as provided in O.C.G.A. 44-5-60. A written instrument reflecting any termination must be recorded no sooner than, but within two years immediately preceding the beginning of a twenty (20) year renewal period. Every purchaser or grantee of any interest (including, without limitation, a security interest) in any real property subject to this Declaration, by acceptance of a deed or other conveyance, agrees that provisions of this Declaration may be extended and renewed as provided in this Paragraph.

Section 4. Amendment. This Declaration may be amended unilaterally at any time and from time to time by Declarant (a) if an amendment is necessary to bring any provision into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule, or regulation or judicial determination with which it is in conflict; (b) if an amendment is necessary to enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage with respect to the Lots subject to this Declaration; (c) if an amendment is required by an institutional or governmental lender or purchaser of mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to enable the lender or purchaser to make or purchase Mortgage loans on the Lots subject to this Declaration; (d) if an amendment is necessary to enable any governmental agency or reputable private insurance company to insure or guarantee Mortgage loans on the Lots subject to this Declaration, however, any such amendment shall not adversely affect the title to any Owner's Lot unless the Lot Owner consents to the amendment in writing; or (e) to submit the Community to the terms of the Georgia Property Owners' Association Act. Further, so long as Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first, Declarant may unilaterally amend this Declaration for any other purpose; provided, however, any such amendment shall not materially adversely affect the substantive rights of any Lot Owner, nor shall it adversely affect title to any Lot without the consent of the affected Lot Owner. The Board of Directors, with the written consent of Declarant, and

without a vote of the members, may amend this Declaration for the sole purpose of electing to be governed by and thereafter complying with the provisions of the Georgia Property Owner's Association Act, O.C.G.A. § 44-3-220, et. seq.

In addition to the above, this Declaration may be amended upon the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination of affirmative vote and written consent, of Owners holding at least sixty-seven (67%) percent of the total Association vote and, so long as Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first, the written approval of Declarant. Amendments to this Declaration shall become effective upon recordation, unless a later effective date is specified in the amendment. No provision of this Declaration which reserves, grants, or exempts special rights or exemptions to the Declarant or to any Approved Builder shall be amended without the Declarant's or Approved Builder's prior written consent so long as the Declarant or Approved Builder owns any Lot or any property which is subject to annexation to the Community, as provided in Article IX hereof.

In addition to the above, material amendments to this Declaration must be approved by Eligible Mortgage Holders who represent at least fifty-one (51%) percent of the votes of Lots that are subject to Mortgages held by Eligible Mortgage Holders. Notwithstanding the above, the approval of any proposed amendment by an Eligible Mortgage Holder shall be deemed implied and consented to if the Eligible Mortgage Holder fails to submit a response to any written proposal for an amendment within thirty (30) days after the Eligible Mortgage Holder receives notice of the proposed amendment sent by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested.

Section 5. Security. The Association may, but shall not be required to, provide measures or take actions which directly or indirectly improve safety in the Community. However, each Owner, for themselves and their tenants, guests, licensees, and invitees acknowledge and agree that the Association and the Declarant and their respective successors and assigns are not providers insurers or guarantors of security within the community, nor shall any of the foregoing be held liable for any loss or damage by reason of failure to provide adequate security or of ineffectiveness of security measures taken. It shall be the responsibility of each Owner to protect his or her person and property, and all responsibility to provide security shall lie solely with each Owner.

Section 6. Dispute Resolution. Any Owner or occupant must give written notice to the Board requesting a hearing with the Board and attend such hearing to discuss amicable resolution of any dispute before that Owner or occupant files any lawsuit against the Association, the Board, any director, or any agent of the Association. The Owner or occupant shall, in such notice and at the hearing, make a good faith effort to explain the grievance to the Board and resolve the dispute in an amicable fashion, and shall give the Board a reasonable opportunity to address the Owner's or occupant's grievance before filing suit. Upon receiving a request for a hearing, the Board shall give notice of the date, time and place of the hearing to the person requesting the hearing. The Board shall schedule this hearing for a date no less than seven (7) nor more than twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the notice of hearing by the person requesting the hearing.

Section 7. Partition. The Common Property shall remain undivided, and no Lot Owner or any other Person shall bring any action for partition or division of the whole or any part of the Common Property without the written consent of all Owners and all holders of all Mortgages encumbering any portion of the Community.

Section 8. Gender and Grammar. The singular, wherever used herein, shall be construed to mean the plural, when applicable, and the use of the masculine pronoun shall include the neuter and feminine.

Section 9. Severability. Whenever possible, each provision of this Declaration shall be interpreted in such manner as to be effective and valid, but if the application of any provision of this Declaration to any person or to any property shall be prohibited or held invalid, such prohibition or invalidity shall not affect any other provision or the application of any provision which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and, to this end, the provisions of this Declaration are declared to be severable.

Section 10. Captions. The captions of each Article and Section hereof, as to the contents of each Article and Section, are inserted only for convenience and are in no way to be construed as defining, limiting, extending, or otherwise modifying or adding to the particular Article or Section to which they refer.

Section 11. Preparer. This Declaration was prepared by Ashley Miller Lanier, Weissman, Nowack, Curry & Wilco, P.C., One Alliance Center, 3500 Lenox Road, 4th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30326.

Section 12. Perpetuities. If any of the covenants, conditions, restrictions, or other provisions of this Declaration shall be unlawful, void, or voidable for violation of the rule against perpetuities, then such provisions shall continue only until twenty-one (21) years after the death of the last survivor of the now living descendants of Elizabeth II, Queen of England.

Section 13. Indemnification. The Association shall indemnify every officer, director and committee member against any and all expenses, including attorney's fees, reasonably incurred by or imposed upon such person in connection with any action, suit, or other proceeding (including settlement or any such action, suit, or proceeding, if approved by the then Board of Directors) to which he or she may be made a party by reason of being or having been an officer, director or committee member, whether or not such person holds such position at the time such expenses are incurred. The officers directors and committee members shall not be liable for any mistake of judgment, negligent or otherwise, or for injury or damage caused by any such person in the performance of his or her duties; except for his or her own individual willful misfeasance or malfeasance. The officers and directors shall have no personal liability with respect to any contract or other commitment made by them, in good faith, on behalf of the Association (except to the extent that such officers or directors may also be members of the Association), and the Association shall indemnify and forever hold each such officer and director free and harmless against any and all liability to others on account of any such contract or commitment. Any right to indemnification provided for herein shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which any officer, director or committee member, or former officer, director or committee member, may be entitled. The Association shall, as a Common Expense, maintain adequate general liability and, if obtainable, officers' and directors' liability insurance to fund this obligation, and the insurance shall be written as provided in the Declaration.

Section 14. Construction and Sale Period. Notwithstanding any provisions contained in this Declaration, the Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, rules and regulations, Design Guidelines, and any amendments, so long as there is development and construction related to the initial sale of residences constructed on Lots, it shall be expressly permissible for Declarant and any Approved Builder to maintain and carry on, upon such portion of the Community as Declarant or any Approved Builder may deem necessary, such facilities and activities as in the sole opinion of Declarant or any Approved Builder may be required, convenient, or incidental to Declarant's or any Approved Builder's development, construction, and sales activities related to property described on Exhibit "B" to this Declaration, including, but withour limitanon the following:

- the right of access, ingress and egress for vehicular and pedestrian traffic over, under, on or in the Community;
- (b) the right to tie into any portion of the Community with driveways, parking areas and walkways;
- the right to tie into and/or otherwise connect and use (without a tap-on or any other fee for so doing), replace, relocate, maintain and repair any device which provides utility or similar services including, without limitation, electrical, relephone, natural gas, water, sewer and drainage lines and facilities constructed or installed in, on, under and/or over the Community;
- (d) the right to carry on sales and promotional activities in the Community; and the right to construct and operate business offices, signs, construction trailers, residences, model residences, and sales offices. Declarant and any Approved Builder may use residences, offices, or other buildings owned or leased by Declarant or an Approved Builder as model residences and sales offices and may also use recreational facilities available for use by the Community as a sales office without charge.

Rights exercised pursuant to such reserved easement shall be exercised with a minimum of interference to the quiet enjoyment of affected property, reasonable steps shall be taken to protect such property, and damage shall be repaired by the Person causing the damage at its sole expense. This Section shall not be amended

without the Declarant's express written consent so long as the Declarant or an Approved Builder owns any property in the Community, or which is subject to annexation to the Community, primarily for development and/or sale.

Section 15. Contracts Executed During Declarant Control. All contracts or leases executed by or on behalf of the Association during the period in which the Declarant has the right to appoint the Directors and officers of the Association under the Bylaws shall contain a termination clause permitting the Association to terminate the contract or lease at any time, without cause and without penalty, upon not more than ninety (90) days' written notice.

Section 16. Financial Review. A review of the accounts of the Association shall be made annually in the manner as the Board of Directors may decide; provided, however, after having received the Board's reviewed financial statement at the annual meeting, by a Majority of the Association vote present, or represented by proxy, the Owners may require that the accounts of the Association be audited as a common expense by a public accountant. Upon written request of any institutional holder of a first Mortgage and upon payment of all necessary costs, such holder shall be entitled to receive a copy of an audited financial statement within ninety (90) days of the date of the request.

Section 17. Notice of Sale or Lease. In the event an Owner sells or leases his or her Lot, the Owner shall give to the Association, in writing, the name of the purchaser or lessee of the Lot and such other information as the Board may reasonably require.

Section 18. Agreements. Subject to the prior approval of Declarant (so long as the Declarant owns any Lots in the Community or seven (7) years from the date of recording of this Declaration, whichever comes first) all agreements and determinations, including settlement agreements regarding litigation involving the Association, lawfully authorized by the Board of Directors shall be binding upon all Owners, their heirs, legal representatives, successors, assigns, and others having an interest in the Community or the privilege of possession and enjoyment of any part of the Community.

Section 19. Implied Rights. The Association may exercise any right or privilege given to it expressly by this Declaration, the Bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation, any use restriction or rule, and every other right or privilege reasonably to be implied from the existence of any right or privilege given to it or reasonably necessary to effectuate the right or privilege.

Section 20. Variances. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Declaration, the Board of Directors or its designee shall be authorized to grant individual variances from any of the provisions of this Declaration, the Bylaws and any rule, regulation or use restriction promulgated pursuant thereto if it determines that waiver of application or enforcement of the provision in a particular case would not be inconsistent with the overall scheme of development for the Community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being the duly appointed officers of Declarant herein, have executed this instrument and affixed the corporate seal this 27 day of Sept, 2003.

ASSOCIATED L'AND GROUP CO., a Georgia company

Ву:

Title:

[CORPORATE SEAL]

Signed, sealed, and delivered this

Withess

Notary Public

[NOTARY SEAL]

Microsa M Wood
Notary Public, Gwinnett County, Georgia
My Commission Express January 17, 2004

#### EXHIBIT "A"

#### **Definitions**

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

- (a) "Approved Builder" shall mean any builder or developer which is designated as an Approved Builder by the Declarant in writing. Approved Builders shall continue to be Approved Builders for so long as they own at least one Lot for the purpose of construction of a residence and resale of the Lot and residence.
- (b) "Association" shall mean the Westheimer Estates Homeowners Association, Inc., its successors and assigns.
- (c) "Roard of Directors" or "Board" shall mean the appointed or elected body of the Association, as applicable, having its normal meaning under Georgia corporate law.
- (d) "Bylaws" shall refer to the Bylaws of The Westheimer Estates Homeowners Association, Inc., attached to this Declaration as Exhibit "C" and incorporated herein by reference.
- (e) "Common Property" shall mean any and all real and personal property and easements and other interests, together with the facilities and improvements located on the property in owner in the facilities and improvements located on the property in owner in the facilities and improvements located on the property in owner in the facilities and other association.
- (f) "Community" shall mean and refer to that certain real property and interests therein described in Exhibit "B", attached hereto, and (i) such additions thereto as may be made by Declarant (or its Mortgagee or transferce, as provided in the Declaration) of all or any portion of the real property described in Exhibit "C", attached hereto; and (ii) such additions of other real property thereto as may be made by the Association (as provided in the Declaration).
- (g) "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 Declarant and the Board of Directors of the Association. Any determination by the Board, however, must be consistent with the Community-Wide Standard originally established by the Declarant.
- (h) "Declarant" shall mean and refer to Associated Land Group Co., a Georgia company, and such of its successors-in-title who shall: (i) acquire, from a predecessor "Declarant," and for the purpose of development or sale, all or any portion of the real property described in Exhibit "B" or in Exhibit "C" hereto, and (ii) be designated as the "Declarant" in the deed of transfer by which such successors-in-title shall so acquire its interest in such real property, or by written assignment of Declarant rights in an instrument recorded in the Gwinnett County, Georgia records.

There shall only be one "Declarant" at any one time; in no event shall more than one Person have the right to exercise the power and authority of the "Declarant" at any one time.

- (i) "Lot" shall mean any plot of land within the Community, whether or not improvements are constructed thereon, which constitutes or will constitute, after the construction of improvements, a single-family dwelling site as shown on a plat recorded or to be recorded in the Gwinnett County, Georgia, records and which is subject to the terms of this Declaration.
- (j) "Majority" means those eligible votes by Owners, or other group as the context may indicate, totaling more than fifty (50%) percent of the total eligible number.

- (k) "Mortgage" means any mortgage, deed to secure debt, and any and all other similar instruments used for the purpose of conveying or encumbering real property as security for the payment or satisfaction of an obligation.
  - (l) "Mortgagee" shall mean the holder of a Mortgage.
- (m) "Owner" shall mean and refer to the record owner, whether one or more Persons, of the fee simple title to any Lot located within the Community, excluding, however, any Person holding such interest merely as security for the performance or satisfaction of any obligation.
- (n) "Person" means any natural person, as well as a corporation, joint venture, partnership (general or limited), association, trust, or other legal entity.

#### **EXHIBIT "B"**

#### **Property Submitted**

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being inland lots 23 and 24 of the 6<sup>th</sup> District of Gwinnett County, Georgia, being a 34.89 acre tract according to a boundary and topographic survey for NationsBank, N.A. (South), dated 5/30/97 by Blue Ridge Engineering, Inc., Certified by H. Tate Jones, Georgia, RLS #2339, and being more particularly described as follows:

To find the point of beginning, commence from a point marked by an iron pin on the easterly right of way of South Rockbridge Road (80' R/W), which point is 47.68 feet southwesterly along the line dividing land lots 9 and 24 from the intersection of land lots 9, 10, 23 and 24, run thence northwesterly along said right of way 300.74 feet to an iron pin found at the point of beginning hereof; run thence along said right of way the following courses and distances: an arc distance of 537.99 feet, said arc having a radius of 1445.54 feet and being subtended by a chord bearing North 09 degrees 42 minutes 46 seconds west 534.89 feet to an iron pin set; thence North 00 degrees 56 minutes 57 seconds East 181.26 feet to an iron pin set; then an arc distance of 536.47 feet, said arc having a radius of 1252.48 feet and being subtended by a chord bearing North 11 degrees 19 minutes 17 seconds West 532.28 feet to an iron pin set; thence leaving said right of way, run North 59 degrees 59 minutes 42 seconds East 668.39 feet to an iron pin found; run thence North 59 degrees 11 minutes 07 seconds East 191.72 feet to in iron pin set; run thence North 61 degrees 18 minutes 31 seconds East 227.00 feet to in iron pin found; run thence South 60 degrees 10 minutes 16 seconds West 1534.47 feet to an iron pin found on the Easterly right of way of South Rockbridge Road and the true point of beginning.

### EXHIBIT "C"

### Additional Property

Any and all property adjacent to and contiguous with the real property described in Exhibit "B."

EXHIBIT "D"

**BYLAWS** 

OF

WESTHEIMER ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

WEISSMAN, NOWACK, CURRY & WILCO, P.C. Attorneys

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