



Doc ID: 011878210098 Type: CRP
Recorded: 06/21/2007 at 12:13:48 PM
Fee Amt: \$305.00 Page 1 of 98
Instr# 200700062397
Gaston, NC
Susan S. Lockridge Register of Deeds
BK **4330** PG **1355-1452**

98
RECORDING FEE 305⁰⁰

INDEXING NOTE TO REGISTER OF DEEDS:

Please index in Grantor index under "Faison-Gaston Gateway LLC" and "Standard Pacific of the Carolinas, LLC"

Please index in Grantee index under "Water's Edge", "Water's Edge at Mt. Holly Homeowners Association, Inc." and "Standard Pacific of the Carolinas, LLC".

**DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS
FOR
WATER'S EDGE**

Prepared by / upon recording, please return to:

**Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP
Three Wachovia Center
401 South Tryon Street, Suite 3000
Charlotte, NC 28202-1935
Attention: Brent M. Milgrom, Jr.**

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

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
PART ONE: INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMUNITY	1
Article I Creation of the Community	1
1.1 Purpose and Intent.....	1
1.2 Binding Effect.....	1
1.3 Governing Documents.....	2
Article II Concepts and Definitions.....	3
2.1 Defined Terms.....	3
2.2 Interpretation of Certain References.....	8
PART TWO: CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF COMMUNITY STANDARDS	9
Article III Use and Conduct.....	9
3.1 Framework for Regulation.....	9
3.2 Rule Making Authority.....	9
3.3 Owners' Acknowledgement and Notice to Purchasers.....	10
3.4 Protection of Owners and Others.....	10
Article IV Architecture and Landscaping.....	11
4.1 General.....	11
4.2 Architectural Review.....	12
4.3 Guidelines and Procedures.....	13
4.4 No Waiver of Future Approvals.....	15
4.5 Variances.....	15
4.6 Limitation of Liability.....	15
Article V Maintenance and Repair	16
5.1 Maintenance by Owners.....	16
5.2 Maintenance by Association.....	16
5.3 Completion; Warranty.....	18
5.4 Insurance.....	18
5.5 Responsibility for Repair and Replacement; Casualty Losses.....	19
5.6 Costs.....	20
PART THREE: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION.....	21
Article VI The Association and its Members	21
6.1 Function of Association.....	21
6.2 Membership.....	21
6.3 Voting.....	22
Article VII Association Powers and Responsibilities.....	22
7.1 Acceptance and Control of Association Property.....	22

7.2	Maintenance of Area of Common Responsibility.	23
7.3	Provision of Benefits and Services to Service Areas.....	24
7.4	Insurance.....	25
7.5	Compliance and Enforcement.....	28
7.6	Implied Rights; Board Authority.....	30
7.7	Provision of Services to Units.....	30
7.8	Relationships with Other Properties.....	31
7.9	Use of Technology.....	31
7.10	Safety and Security.....	31
7.11	Publishing Names and Addresses of Elected Officers and Board Members.....	32
Article VIII Association Finances.....		32
8.1	Authority to Levy Assessments for Association Expenses.....	32
8.2	Budgeting and Allocating Association Expenses.....	33
8.3	Special Assessments.....	35
8.4	Specific Assessments.....	36
8.5	Payment of Assessments.....	36
8.6	Lien for Assessments.....	36
8.7	Exempt Property.....	37
8.8	Capitalization of Association.....	38
PART FOUR: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		39
Article IX Expansion of the Community		39
9.1	Expansion by Declarant.....	39
9.2	Expansion by the Association.....	39
9.3	Additional Covenants and Easements.....	39
9.4	Effect of Filing Supplemental Declaration.....	40
Article X Additional Rights Reserved to Declarant.....		40
10.1	Withdrawal of Property.....	40
10.2	Right to Veto Changes in Standards.....	40
10.3	Development and Sales Activities.....	40
10.4	Additional Plats and Covenants.....	41
10.5	Right to Transfer or Assign Declarant Rights.....	41
10.6	Exclusive Rights To Use Name of Development.....	41
10.7	Right to Notice of Design or Construction Claims.....	41
10.8	Right of Convert Unit to Common Area or Roadway.....	41
10.9	Central Telecommunication, Receiving, and Distribution System.....	42
10.10	Notices and Disclaimers as to Community Systems.....	42
PART FIVE: PROPERTY RIGHTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY		43
Article XI Easements		43
11.1	Easements in Common Area.....	43
11.2	Easements of Encroachment.....	44
11.3	Easements for Utilities, Etc.....	44

11.4	Easements to Serve Additional Property.	45
11.5	Easements for Maintenance, Emergency and Enforcement.	45
11.6	Easement to Inspect and Right to Correct.....	46
11.7	Landscaping and Signage and Spoils Easements.....	46
11.8	Easements for Storm Water Collection, Retention and Irrigation Systems.....	46
11.9	Temporary Easements.....	47
11.10	Easements for the Use of Piers and Boatslips.....	47
Article XII Limited Common Areas		48
12.1	Purpose.....	48
12.2	Designation.	48
12.3	Use by Others.....	49
Article XIII Party Walls and Other Shared Structures		49
13.1	General Rules of Law to Apply.	49
13.2	Maintenance; Damage and Destruction.....	49
PART SIX: RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY		51
Article XIV Dispute Resolution and Limitation on Litigation		51
14.1	Agreement to Encourage Resolution of Disputes Without Litigation.....	51
14.2	Dispute Resolution Procedures.	52
14.3	Initiation of Litigation by Association.....	53
Article XV Mortgagee Provisions.....		53
15.1	Notices of Action.	54
15.2	No Priority.	54
15.3	Notice to Association.....	54
Article XVI Changes in Ownership of Units		55
16.1	Notice of Transfer.	55
16.2	Administrative Transfer Fee.	55
Article XVII Changes In Common Area		55
17.1	Condemnation.	55
17.2	Partition.....	56
17.3	Mortgaging, Conveyance or Dedication of Common Area.....	56
Article XVIII Amendment of Declaration.....		56
18.1	By Declarant.	56
18.2	By Members.....	57
18.3	Validity and Effective Date.	57
18.4	Exhibits.	57
Article XIX Termination of Declaration.....		57

- TABLE OF EXHIBITS -

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Page First Mentioned</u>
"A"	Land Initially Submitted	1
"B"	Land Subject to Annexation	4
"C"	Initial Restrictions and Rules	3
"D"	By-Laws of Water's Edge at Mt. Holly Homeowners Association, Inc.	4

DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS

FOR

WATER'S EDGE

THIS DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS is made this 15th day of June, 2007, by Faison-Gaston Gateway LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company ("**Declarant**"). Standard Pacific of the Carolinas, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, joins in this Declaration solely to evidence its consent and subject the real property described on its signature page to the terms and conditions of this Declaration.

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMUNITY

Faison-Gaston Gateway LLC as the developer of Water's Edge, has established this Declaration to provide a governance structure and a flexible system of standards and procedures for the overall development, expansion, administration, maintenance and preservation of Water's Edge as a planned community.

Article I Creation of the Community

1.1 Purpose and Intent.

Declarant, as the owner of the real property described in Exhibit "A", intends by this Declaration to establish a general plan of development for the planned community known as Water's Edge. An integral part of the development plan is the creation of Water's Edge at Mt. Holly Homeowners Association, Inc., an association comprised of all owners of real property in Water's Edge, to own, operate and/or maintain various common areas and community improvements and to administer and enforce this Declaration and the other Governing Documents referenced in this Declaration.

This document establishes a planned community under the North Carolina Planned Community Act, N.C.G.S. §47F-2-101, *et seq.*

1.2 Binding Effect.

All property described in Exhibit "A", and any additional property which is made a part of Water's Edge in the future by recording one or more Supplemental Declarations, shall be owned, conveyed and used subject to all of the provisions of this Declaration, which shall run with the title to such property. This Declaration shall be binding upon all Persons having any right, title, or interest in any portion of Water's Edge, their heirs, successors, successors-in-title, and assigns.

This Declaration, as it may be amended, is intended to have perpetual duration, subject to the right of the Owners to terminate this Declaration and the planned community established by this Declaration in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article XIX.

1.3 Governing Documents.

The Governing Documents for Water's Edge consist of:

- this Declaration and such Supplemental Declarations as may be recorded from time to time; and
- the Association's Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws; and
- the Restrictions and Rules described in Article III; and
- the Architectural Guidelines described in Article IV; and
- such resolutions as the Association's Board of Directors may adopt;

all as they may be amended. In the event of a conflict between or among any of the Governing Documents, the documents shall be given priority in the order listed above.

The Governing Documents apply to all Owners and occupants of property within Water's Edge, as well as to their respective tenants, guests and invitees. If a Unit is leased, the tenant and all occupants of the leased Unit are bound by and obligated to comply with the Governing Documents regardless of whether the lease so provides.

The Association, the Declarant, and every Owner shall have the right to take legal action to enforce the Governing Documents subject to the terms of such documents. The Association shall have the specific enforcement powers and remedies described in Section 7.5 and elsewhere in the Governing Documents.

If any court should determine that any provision of this Declaration or any Supplemental Declaration is invalid, or invalid as applied in a particular instance, such determination shall not affect the validity of other provisions or applications of such provision.

Throughout the Governing Documents there are diagrams to illustrate the concepts discussed and aid in the reader's comprehension. Such diagrams are for illustrative purposes only. In the event of a conflict between any diagram and the text of the Governing Documents, the text shall control.

Diagram 1.1 identifies the various Governing Documents and their functions.

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS	
Articles of Incorporation _____ (filed with the Secretary of State)	establishes the Association as a nonprofit corporation under North Carolina law
By-Laws _____ (Board of Directors adopts)	governs the Association's internal affairs, such as voting, elections, meetings, etc.
Declaration _____ (recorded)	creates obligations which are binding upon the Association and all present and future owners of property in Water's Edge
Supplemental Declaration _____ (recorded)	expands Water's Edge and/or creates additional obligations, restrictions and easements on a portion of Water's Edge
Architectural Guidelines _____ (Declarant adopts)	establish standards and guidelines for improvements and modifications to Units, including structures, landscaping and other items on Units
Restrictions and Rules _____ (Board or members may adopt; initial set attached as <u>Exhibit "C"</u>)	govern use of property, activities, and conduct within Water's Edge
Board Resolutions _____ (Board adopts)	establish rules, policies and procedures for internal governance, interpret Governing Documents, regulate operation and use of Common Area, among other things

Diagram 1.1 - Governing Documents

Article II Concepts and Definitions

2.1 Defined Terms.

The terms used in the Governing Documents shall generally be given their natural, commonly accepted definitions unless otherwise specified. Capitalized terms shall be defined as set forth below.

"Architectural Guidelines": The guidelines and standards for design, construction, landscaping, and exterior items placed on Units adopted pursuant to Article IV, as they may be amended.

“Area of Common Responsibility”: The Common Area, together with such other areas, if any, for which the Association has or assumes responsibility pursuant to the terms of this Declaration, any Supplemental Declaration, or other applicable covenants, contracts, or agreements.

“Articles”: The Articles of Incorporation of Water’s Edge at Mt. Holly Homeowners Association, Inc., filed with the Office of the Secretary of State, State of North Carolina, as they may be amended.

“Association”: Water’s Edge at Mt. Holly Homeowners Association, Inc., a North Carolina non-profit corporation, its successors or assigns.

“Board of Directors” or “Board”: The body responsible for administration of the Association, selected as provided in the By-Laws and generally serving the same role as the board of directors under North Carolina corporate law.

“Boatslips”: The Community Boatslips and the Exclusive Boatslips.

“Builder”: Any Person who purchases one or more Units for the purpose of constructing improvements for later sale to consumers, or who purchases one or more parcels of land within Water’s Edge for further subdivision, development, and/or resale in the ordinary course of its business.

“By-Laws”: The By-Laws of Water’s Edge at Mt. Holly Homeowners Association, Inc., as they may be amended. A copy of the initial By-Laws is attached to this Declaration as Exhibit “D”.

“Class “B” Control Period”: The period of time during which the Declarant, as the Class “B” Member, is entitled to appoint a majority of the members of the Board, as provided in Article III of the By-Laws. The Class “B” Control Period shall terminate not later than 90 days after the first to occur of the following:

- (a) the date that 75% of the total number of Units permitted by the Master Plan for the property described in Exhibits “A” and “B” have certificates of occupancy issued thereon and have been conveyed to Class “A” Members other than Builders; or
- (b) 20 years from the date of recording of this Declaration; or
- (c) such earlier date as the Class “B” Member, in its sole discretion, executes and records a written notice voluntarily terminating the Class “B” Control Period.

Temporary suspension of the Class “B” Membership pursuant to Section 6.2 shall not affect the Class “B” Control Period.

“Common Area”: All real and personal property, including easements, which the Association owns, leases or otherwise holds possessory or use rights in for the common use and enjoyment of the Owners, including, but not limited to, the Boatslips and Piers. The term shall include the Limited Common Area, as defined below.

“Common Expenses”: The actual and estimated expenses which the Association incurs, or expects to incur, for the general benefit of all Owners, including any reasonable reserve, as the Board may find necessary or appropriate pursuant to the Governing Documents. Common Expenses shall not include any expenses incurred during the Class “B” Control Period for initial development or other original construction costs unless approved by Members representing a majority of the total Class “A” votes in the Association. Payments due under leases of capital improvements such as street lights shall not be considered an initial development expense or original construction cost and shall be deemed to be a Common Expense.

“Community-Wide Standard”: The standard of conduct, maintenance, or other activity generally prevailing in Water’s Edge, or the minimum standards established pursuant to the Architectural Guidelines, Restrictions and Rules, and Board resolutions, whichever is the highest standard. Declarant initially shall establish such standard and it may contain both objective and subjective elements. The Community-Wide Standard may evolve as development progresses and as the needs and desires within Water’s Edge change.

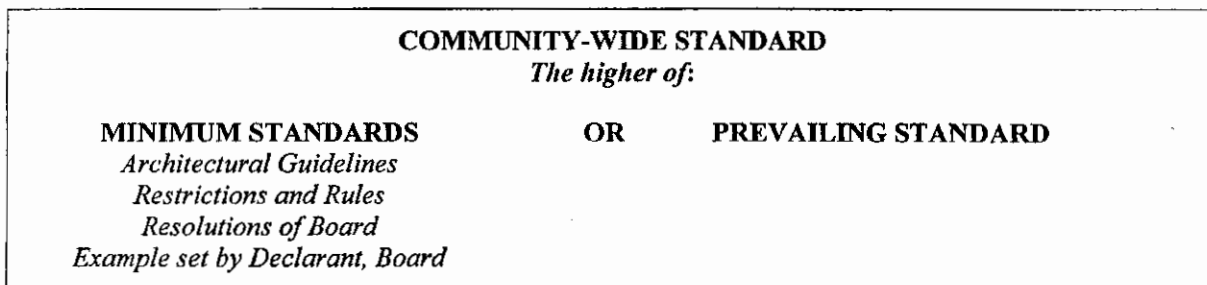


Diagram 1.2. Community-Wide Standard

“Community Boatslips”: Any boatslips over the waters of Catawba River (“**River**”) that Declarant may cause to be constructed for the common use and enjoyment of the Owners, their families, guests and invitees for the purpose of temporarily docking boats and are designated as “Community Boatslips” (or similar designation) on the recorded subdivision plats relating to Water’s Edge.

“Declarant”: Faison-Gaston Gateway LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company, or any successor or assign who takes title to any portion of the property described in Exhibits “A” or “B” for the purpose of development and/or sale and who the immediately preceding Declarant designates as Declarant in a recorded instrument.

“Declarant Affiliate”: Any Person that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the Declarant, and any Person that is an owner, a member, a partner, or a shareholder of the Declarant.

“Development and Sale Period”: The period of time during which Declarant or any Declarant Affiliate owns property subject to this Declaration or Declarant holds an unexpired option to unilaterally expand the community pursuant to Section 9.1.

“Eligible Mortgage Holder”: A holder, insurer or guarantor of a first priority Mortgage on a Unit who has submitted a written request to the Association to notify it of any proposed

action requiring the consent of a specified percentage of Eligible Mortgage Holders pursuant to Article XV. The term “**Eligible Mortgage**” shall refer to the Mortgage held by an Eligible Mortgage Holder.

“Exclusive Boatslips”: Any boatslips over the River that Declarant may cause to be constructed for the exclusive use and enjoyment of Owner(s) designated by Declarant, their respective families, guests and invitees. Declarant reserves the right to (i) convey its interest in any Exclusive Boatslips that it constructs to certain Owner(s) designated by Declarant; and (ii) designate any Exclusive Boatslip (and its associated Pier) that Declarant constructs as a Service Area pursuant to Section 7.3 for the benefit of the designated Owner(s) for each respective Exclusive Boatslip.

“General Assessment”: Assessments levied on all Units subject to assessment under Article VIII to fund Common Expenses for the general benefit of all Units, as determined in accordance with Section 8.2.

“Governing Documents”: A collective term referring to this Declaration and any applicable Supplemental Declaration, the By-Laws, the Articles, the Architectural Guidelines, the Restrictions and Rules, and Board resolutions, all as they may be amended.

“Limited Common Area”: A portion of the Common Area (including Exclusive Boatslips) assigned, pursuant to Article XII, for the primary benefit or use of one or more, but less than all, Units.

“Master Plan”: The preliminary land plan for the development of Water’s Edge prepared by Turnbull Sigmon Design, as it may be supplemented or amended by Declarant in its discretion, which includes all of the property described in Exhibit “A” and all or a portion of the property described in Exhibit “B”. Inclusion of property on the Master Plan shall not, under any circumstances, obligate Declarant to subject such property to this Declaration, nor shall the omission of property described in Exhibit “B” from the Master Plan bar its later submission to this Declaration as provided in Article IX.

“Member”: A Person subject to membership in the Association pursuant to Section 6.2.

“Mortgage”: A mortgage, a security deed, a deed of trust, or any other form of security instrument affecting title to any Unit. The term “**Mortgagee**” shall refer to a beneficiary or holder of a Mortgage.

“Owner”: One or more Persons who hold the record title to any Unit, but excluding in all cases any party holding an interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation. If a Unit is sold under a recorded contract of sale, and the contract specifically so provides, the purchaser (rather than the fee owner) will be considered the Owner.

“Person”: A natural person, a corporation, a partnership, a limited liability company, trust, or any other legal entity.

"Piers": shall mean and refer to the pier or piers, containing the Boatslips, which may be constructed over the River, together with any additional Piers which Declarant may cause to be constructed.

"Restrictions and Rules": The initial restrictions and rules set forth in Exhibit "C", as they may be supplemented, modified and repealed pursuant to Article III.

"Service Area": A group of Units designated as a separate Service Area pursuant to this Declaration for purposes of sharing Limited Common Areas and/or receiving other benefits or services from the Association which are not provided to all Units. A Service Area may be comprised of more than one housing type and may include noncontiguous parcels of property. A Unit may be assigned to more than one Service Area. Where the context permits or requires, the term "Service Area" shall also refer to any Service Area Committee established in accordance with the By-Laws to represent the interests of Owners of Units within a Service Area. Service Area boundaries may be established and modified as provided in Section 7.3.

"Service Area Assessments": Assessments levied against the Units in a particular Service Area to fund Service Area Expenses, as described in Section 8.2.

"Service Area Expenses": The actual and estimated expenses which the Association incurs or expects to incur for the benefit of Owners within a particular Service Area, which may include a reasonable reserve for capital repairs and replacements and a reasonable administrative charge, as may be authorized pursuant to this Declaration or in the Supplemental Declaration(s) applicable to such Service Area.

"Special Assessment": Assessments levied in accordance with Section 8.3.

"Specific Assessment": Assessments levied in accordance with Section 8.4.

"Supplemental Declaration": An instrument recorded pursuant to Article IX which subjects additional property to this Declaration, designates Service Areas, and/or creates or imposes additional easements, restrictions and obligations on the land described in such instrument.

"Unit": A portion of Water's Edge, whether improved or unimproved, which may be independently owned and is intended for development, use, and occupancy as an attached or detached residence for a single family. The term shall refer to the land, if any, which is part of the Unit as well as any improvements thereon. In the case of a structure containing multiple dwellings, each dwelling shall be deemed to be a separate Unit.

In the case of a parcel of vacant land or land on which improvements are under construction, the parcel shall be deemed to contain the number of Units designated for residential use for such parcel on the Master Plan or Declarant's site plan, whichever is more recent, until such time as a subdivision plat, condominium declaration, or other instrument is recorded subdividing all or a portion of the parcel. Thereafter, the portion encompassed by such plat or other instrument shall contain the number of Units determined as set forth in the preceding paragraph and the number of Units in any remaining portion shall continue to be calculated in accordance with this paragraph.

Units may be combined or further subdivided, and boundary lines of Units may be changed, only by recording of a plat or other legal instrument further subdividing or resubdividing the parcel of property (which subdivision shall be subject to such other restrictions as may be set forth in this Declaration or the Restrictions and Rules). In the absence of recording such a legal instrument, ownership of adjacent Units by the same Owner shall not permit such Units to be treated as a single Unit for purposes of voting and assessment, notwithstanding that such Units may be improved with a single dwelling.

“Water’s Edge”: The real property described on Exhibit “A” together with such additional property as is submitted to this Declaration pursuant to Article IX.

2.2 Interpretation of Certain References.

(a) Recording. All references in the Governing Documents to a “recorded” legal instrument, or to recordation or the recording of a legal instrument, shall refer to an instrument filed, or the filing of a legal instrument, in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Gaston County, North Carolina, or such other place designated as the official location for filing documents affecting title to real estate in Gaston County in order to make them a matter of public record.

(b) Consent or Approval. All references in the Governing Documents to “consent” or “approval” shall refer to permission or approval that, unless otherwise expressly qualified in the specific provision, may be granted or withheld in the discretion of the Person whose consent or approval is required.

(c) Discretion and Determinations. All references in the Governing Documents to “discretion” or to the right to “determine” any matter shall refer to the sole and absolute power or right to decide or act and, unless otherwise expressly limited in the Governing Documents, a Person entitled to exercise its discretion or make a determination may do so without regard to the reasonableness of, and without the necessity of justifying, the decision, determination, action or inaction.

PART TWO: CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF COMMUNITY STANDARDS

The standards for use and conduct, maintenance, architecture, landscaping and other aesthetic matters at Water's Edge are what give the community its identity and make it special. Each Owner and resident participates in upholding such standards and can take pride in the results of that common effort. This Declaration establishes procedures for adopting, modifying, applying and enforcing such standards while providing the flexibility for the community standards to evolve over time.

Article III Use and Conduct

3.1 Framework for Regulation.

The Governing Documents establish, as part of the general plan of development for Water's Edge, a framework of affirmative and negative covenants, easements and restrictions that govern Water's Edge. Within that framework, the Board and the Members must have the ability to respond to unforeseen problems and changes in circumstances, conditions, needs, desires, and trends. Therefore, this Article establishes rulemaking authority and procedures for modifying and expanding the initial Restrictions and Rules set forth in Exhibit "C". This Article is not intended to apply to rules and regulations relating to use and operation of the Common Area which the Board may adopt by resolution pursuant to Section 7.1(c), nor to administrative policies which the Board may adopt by resolution to interpret, define or implement the Restrictions and Rules.

3.2 Rule Making Authority.

(a) Subject to the terms of this Article and the Board's duty pursuant to Section 6.1 of the By-Laws to exercise its powers in a reasonable, fair and nondiscriminatory manner, the Board may modify, cancel, limit, create exceptions to, or expand the Restrictions and Rules. The Board shall send notice to all Owners concerning any proposed action at least fifteen business days prior to the Board meeting at which such action is to be considered. Members shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard at a Board meeting prior to such action being taken. In addition, during the Development and Sale Period, any such action shall require the written consent of Declarant.

(b) In addition to the Board's authority under subsection (a) above, Members may, at an Association meeting duly called for such purpose, modify, cancel, limit, create exceptions to, or expand the Restrictions and Rules then in effect. Any such action shall require approval of persons entitled to cast more than 50% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association. In addition, during the Development and Sale Period, any such action shall require the written consent of Declarant.

(c) Prior to any action taken under this Section becoming effective, the Board shall send a copy of the new rule or explanation of any changes to the Restrictions and Rules to each Owner. The effective date shall be not less than 30 days following distribution to Owners. The Association shall provide, without cost, a copy of the Restrictions and Rules then in effect to any requesting Member or Mortgagee.

(d) No action taken under this Article shall have the effect of modifying, repealing or expanding the Architectural Guidelines or any provision of this Declaration other than the initial Restrictions and Rules set forth in Exhibit "C". In the event of a conflict between the Architectural Guidelines and the Restrictions and Rules, the Architectural Guidelines shall control.

3.3 Owners' Acknowledgement and Notice to Purchasers.

ALL OWNERS ARE GIVEN NOTICE THAT USE OF THEIR UNITS AND THE COMMON AREA IS LIMITED BY THE RESTRICTIONS AND RULES AS AMENDED, EXPANDED AND OTHERWISE MODIFIED FROM TIME TO TIME. Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed, acknowledges and agrees that the use and enjoyment and marketability of his or her Unit can be affected by this provision and that the Restrictions and Rules may change from time to time. All purchasers of Units are on notice that the Association may have adopted changes. Copies of the current Restrictions and Rules may be obtained from the Association.

3.4 Protection of Owners and Others.

Except as may be set forth in this Declaration (either initially or by amendment) or in the initial Restrictions and Rules set forth in Exhibit "C", all Restrictions and Rules shall comply with the following provisions:

(a) Similar Treatment. Similarly situated Owners shall be treated similarly; however, the Restrictions and Rules may vary by housing type or area.

(b) Religious and Holiday Displays. The rights of Owners to display religious and holiday signs, symbols, and decorations inside structures on their Units of the kinds normally displayed in dwellings located in single-family residential neighborhoods shall not be abridged, except that the Association may adopt time, place, and manner restrictions with respect to displays visible from outside the dwelling.

(c) Signs. No rules shall regulate the content of political signs; however, rules may regulate the time, place and manner of posting such signs and the Architectural Guidelines may establish design criteria for such signs.

(d) Household Composition. No rule shall interfere with the freedom of Owners to determine the composition of their households, except that, unless prohibited by law, the Association shall have the power to require that all occupants be members of a single housekeeping unit and to limit the total number of occupants permitted in each Unit on the basis of the size and facilities of the Unit and its fair use of the Common Area.

(e) Activities Within Dwellings. No rule shall interfere with the activities carried on within the confines of dwellings, to the extent in compliance with local laws and ordinances, except that the Association may prohibit activities not normally associated with property restricted to residential use, and it may restrict or prohibit any activities that create monetary costs for the Association or other Owners, that create a danger to the health or safety of occupants of other Units, that generate excessive noise or traffic, that create unsightly conditions

visible outside the dwelling, or that create an unreasonable source of annoyance to persons outside the Unit.

(f) Allocation of Burdens and Benefits. No rule shall alter the allocation of financial burdens among the various Units or rights to use the Common Area to the detriment of any Owner over that Owner's objection expressed in writing to the Association. Nothing in this provision shall prevent the Association from changing the Common Area available, from adopting generally applicable rules for use of Common Area, or from denying use privileges to those who are delinquent in paying assessments, abuse the Common Area, or violate the Governing Documents. This provision does not affect the right to increase the amount of assessments as provided in Article VIII.

(g) Alienation. Except as provided in the initial Restrictions and Rules, no rule shall prohibit leasing or transfer of any Unit, or require consent of the Association or Board for leasing or transfer of any Unit; however, rules may require a minimum lease term of up to 12 months. The Association may require that Owners use lease forms approved by the Board.

(h) Abridging Existing Rights. No rule shall require an Owner to dispose of personal property that was in or on a Unit prior to the adoption of such rule if such personal property was in compliance with all rules previously in force. This exemption shall apply only during the period of such Owner's ownership of the Unit, and shall not apply to subsequent Owners who take title to the Unit after adoption of the rule.

(i) Reasonable Rights to Develop and Sell. No rule or action by the Association or Board shall unreasonably impede Declarant's right to develop Water's Edge, nor restrict Declarant or such Builders as Declarant may so authorize from maintaining upon Common Areas and Units which they own any facilities necessary or incidental to construction or sale of Units. By way of example and not limitation, no rule shall prohibit Declarant or such Builders as Declarant may so authorize from maintaining temporary structures for use during construction of a Unit or from using any home as a sales office or certain Units as parking areas for visitors to the sales office.

The limitations in subsections (a) through (i) of this Section 3.4 shall only limit rulemaking authority exercised under Section 3.2; they shall not apply to amendments to this Declaration adopted in accordance with Article XVIII.

Article IV Architecture and Landscaping

4.1 General.

No structure or thing shall be placed, erected, or installed upon any Unit (including, without limitation, and fence) and no improvements or other work (including staking, clearing, excavation, grading and other site work, exterior alterations of existing improvements, or planting or removal of landscaping) shall take place within Water's Edge, except in compliance with this Article and the Architectural Guidelines.

No approval shall be required to repaint the exterior of a structure in accordance with the originally approved color scheme or to rebuild in accordance with originally approved plans and

specifications. Any Owner may remodel, paint or redecorate the interior of his or her Unit without approval. However, modifications to the interior of screened porches, patios, and similar portions of a Unit visible from outside the structure shall be subject to approval.

All construction on Units shall comply with all applicable zoning and building codes and requirements.

This Article shall not apply to Declarant's activities or to activities of the Association during the Class "B" Control Period.

4.2 Architectural Review.

(a) By Declarant. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or other instrument conveying any interest in a Unit, acknowledges that, Declarant has a substantial interest in ensuring that the improvements within Water's Edge enhance Declarant's reputation as a community developer and do not impair Declarant's ability to market, sell, or lease its property in, or in the vicinity of, Water's Edge. Therefore, each Owner agrees that no activity within the scope of this Article shall be commenced on such Owner's Unit unless and until Declarant or its designee has given its prior written approval for such activity, which approval may be granted or withheld in the Declarant's or its designee's sole discretion.

In reviewing and acting upon any request for approval, Declarant or its designee shall be acting solely in Declarant's interest and shall owe no duty to any other Person. Declarant's rights reserved under this Article shall continue so long as Declarant owns any portion of Water's Edge or any real property adjacent to Water's Edge, unless earlier terminated in a written instrument that Declarant executes and records.

Declarant may, in its sole discretion, designate one or more Persons from time to time to act on its behalf in reviewing applications hereunder.

Declarant may from time to time, but shall not be obligated to, delegate all or a portion of its reserved rights under this Article to an architectural review committee appointed by the Board of Directors (the "ARC"). The committee may be comprised of architects, engineers or other persons who may or may not be Members of the Association. Any such delegation shall be in writing specifying the scope of responsibilities delegated. It shall be subject to (i) Declarant's right to revoke such delegation at any time and reassume jurisdiction over the matters previously delegated and (ii) Declarant's right to veto any decision which Declarant determines, in its sole discretion, to be inappropriate or inadvisable for any reason. So long as Declarant has any rights under this Article, the jurisdiction of the foregoing entities shall be limited to such matters as Declarant specifically delegates to them.

(b) Architectural Review Committee. Upon delegation by Declarant or upon expiration or termination of Declarant's rights under this Article, the Association, acting through the ARC, shall assume jurisdiction over architectural matters. The ARC, when appointed, shall consist of at least three, but not more than seven, persons who shall serve and may be removed and replaced in the Board's discretion. The members of the ARC need not be Members of the Association or representatives of Members, and may, but need not, include architects, engineers

or similar professionals, who may be compensated in such manner and amount if any, as the Board may establish.

Unless and until such time as Declarant delegates all or a portion of its reserved rights to the ARC or Declarant's rights under this Article terminate, the Association shall have no jurisdiction over architectural matters.

(c) Fees; Assistance. For purposes of this Article, the entity having jurisdiction in a particular case shall be referred to as the "Reviewer." The Reviewer may establish and charge reasonable fees for review of applications and may require such fees to be paid in full prior to review of any application. Such fees may include the reasonable costs incurred in having any application reviewed by architects, engineers or other professionals. Declarant and the Association may employ architects, engineers, or other persons as deemed necessary to perform the review. The Board may include the compensation of such persons in the Association's annual operating budget.

4.3 Guidelines and Procedures.

(a) Architectural Guidelines. Declarant may prepare the initial Architectural Guidelines, which may contain general provisions applicable to all of Water's Edge as well as specific provisions that vary by housing type and from one area to another within Water's Edge. The Architectural Guidelines are intended to provide guidance to Owners and Builders regarding matters of particular concern to the Reviewer in considering applications. The Architectural Guidelines are not the exclusive basis for decisions of the Reviewer and compliance with the Architectural Guidelines does not guarantee approval of any application.

Declarant shall have sole and full authority to amend the Architectural Guidelines during the Development and Sale Period, notwithstanding a delegation of reviewing authority to the ARC, unless Declarant also delegates the power to amend to the ARC. Upon termination or delegation of Declarant's right to amend, the ARC shall have the authority to amend the Architectural Guidelines with the consent of the Board.

Any amendments to the Architectural Guidelines shall be prospective only and shall not apply to or require modifications to or removal of structures previously approved once the approved construction or modification has commenced. There shall be no limitation on the scope of amendments to the Architectural Guidelines, and such amendments may remove requirements previously imposed or otherwise make the Architectural Guidelines less restrictive.

The initial Architectural Guidelines, and any subsequent changes may, but shall not be required to be recorded in the Gaston County Public Registry. The Reviewer shall make the Architectural Guidelines available to Owners and Builders who seek to engage in development or construction within Water's Edge.

(b) Procedures. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Declaration or the Architectural Guidelines, no activities shall commence on any Unit until an application for approval has been submitted to and approved by the Reviewer. Such application may include plans and specifications showing site layout, structural design, exterior elevations, exterior materials and colors, landscaping, drainage, exterior lighting, irrigation, and other features of

proposed construction, as applicable. The Architectural Guidelines and the Reviewer may require the submission of such additional information as may be reasonably necessary to consider any application.

In reviewing each submission, the Reviewer may consider any factors it deems relevant, including, without limitation, harmony of external design with surrounding structures and environment. Decisions may be based on purely aesthetic considerations. Each Owner acknowledges that determinations as to such matters are purely subjective and opinions may vary as to the desirability and/or attractiveness of particular improvements. The Reviewer shall have the sole discretion to make final, conclusive, and binding determinations on matters of aesthetic judgment and such determinations shall not be subject to review so long as made in good faith and in accordance with the procedures set forth herein.

The Reviewer shall make a determination on each application within 30 days after receipt of a completed application and all required information. The Reviewer may (i) approve the application, with or without conditions; (ii) approve a portion of the application and disapprove other portions; or (iii) disapprove the application.

Until expiration of Declarant's rights under this Article, the ARC shall notify Declarant in writing within three business days after the ARC has approved any application within the scope of matters delegated to the ARC by Declarant. The notice shall be accompanied by a copy of the application and any additional information that Declarant may require. Declarant shall have 10 days after receipt of such notice to veto any such action, in its sole discretion, by written notice to the ARC.

The Reviewer shall notify the applicant in writing of the final determination on any application within five days thereafter or, with respect to any determination by the ARC subject to Declarant's veto right, within five days after the earlier of: (i) receipt of notice of Declarant's veto or waiver thereof; or (ii) expiration of the 10-day period for exercise of Declarant's veto. In the case of disapproval, the Reviewer may, but shall not be obligated to, specify the reasons for any objections and/or offer suggestions for curing any objections. Notice shall be deemed given when deposited in the U.S. Mail, certified mail, return receipt requested, properly addressed to the applicant at the address stated in such applicant's notice, or upon receipt if given by any other means.

In the event that the Reviewer fails to give notice of its approval or disapproval of any application within the time period required above, the applicant may notify the Reviewer by certified mail, return receipt requested, at the address for such notices set forth in the current edition of the Architectural Guidelines, stating that no response has been received and that unless a written response is given at the address set forth in such notice within 15 days of the Reviewer's receipt of the applicant's notice, as evidenced by the return receipt, the application shall be deemed approved. However, no approval, whether expressly granted or deemed granted, shall be inconsistent with the Architectural Guidelines unless a written variance has been granted pursuant to Section 4.5.

If construction does not commence on a project for which Plans have been approved within nine months after the date of approval, such approval shall be deemed withdrawn and it

shall be necessary for the Owner to reapply for approval before commencing any activities. Once construction is commenced, it shall be diligently pursued to completion. All work shall be completed within one year of commencement unless otherwise specified in the notice of approval or unless the Reviewer grants an extension in writing, which it shall not be obligated to do. If approved work is not completed within the required time, it shall be considered nonconforming and shall be subject to enforcement action by the Association, Declarant or any aggrieved Owner. Notwithstanding the foregoing, either the Declarant or the Reviewer may exempt builders (in writing) from the commencement and completion deadlines set forth above.

The Reviewer may, by resolution, exempt certain activities from the application and approval requirements of this Article, provided such activities are undertaken in strict compliance with the requirements of such resolution.

4.4 No Waiver of Future Approvals.

Each Owner acknowledges that the persons reviewing applications under this Article will change from time to time and that opinions on aesthetic matters, as well as interpretation and application of the Architectural Guidelines, may vary accordingly. In addition, each Owner acknowledges that it may not always be possible to identify objectionable features until work is completed, in which case the Reviewer may elect not to require changes to the improvements involved, but the Reviewer may refuse to approve similar proposals in the future. Approval of applications or plans, or in connection with any other matter requiring approval, shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver of the right to withhold approval as to any similar applications, plans, or other matters subsequently or additionally submitted for approval.

4.5 Variances.

The Reviewer 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. No variance shall (a) be effective unless in writing; (b) be contrary to this Declaration; or (c) preclude the Reviewer 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.

4.6 Limitation of Liability.

The standards and procedures established by this Article are intended as a mechanism for maintaining and enhancing the overall aesthetics of Water's Edge. Review and approval of any application pursuant to this Article may be made on the basis of aesthetic considerations only, and the Reviewer shall not bear any responsibility for ensuring the structural integrity or soundness of approved construction or modifications, nor for ensuring compliance with zoning and building codes and other governmental requirements, nor for ensuring that all dwellings are of comparable quality, value or size, of similar design, or aesthetically pleasing or otherwise acceptable to neighboring property owners.

Neither Declarant, the Association, the Board, any committee, nor any member of any of the foregoing, shall be held liable for soil conditions, drainage or other general site work; any defects in plans revised or approved hereunder; any loss or damage arising out of the action, inaction, integrity, financial condition or quality of work of any contractor or its subcontractors, employees or agents, whether or not Declarant has approved or featured such contractor as a builder in Water's Edge; or any injury, damages, or loss arising out of the manner or quality or other circumstances of approved construction on or modifications to any Unit. In all matters, the Board, the ARC, and the members of each shall be defended and indemnified by the Association as provided in Article VI of the By-Laws.

Article V Maintenance and Repair

5.1 Maintenance by Owners.

Unless such maintenance responsibility is otherwise assumed by or assigned to the Association pursuant to any Supplemental Declaration or other declaration of covenants applicable to the Unit, each Owner shall maintain:

(a) his or her Unit, including all structural portions, the foundation or slab and all landscaping and improvements comprising the Unit; and

(b) the landscaping within that portion of any adjacent Common Area or public or private right of way lying between the Unit boundary and any wall, fence or curb located on the Common Area or public or private right-of-way within 15 feet of the Unit boundary;

in a manner consistent with the Governing Documents, the Community-Wide Standard and all applicable covenants, except that there shall be no right to remove trees without prior approval pursuant to Article IV.

5.2 Maintenance by Association.

The Association shall be responsible for performing, or causing to be performed, on behalf of the Owners of the Units, the following:

(a) maintenance of its common property and any other property for which it has maintenance responsibility;

(b) maintenance, including, mowing, fertilizing, watering (if Builder installs irrigation), pruning, and replacing of, and controlling disease and insects on, as needed, all lawns and landscaping installed as part of the initial construction on the Units and replacements thereof, except that the Association shall have no responsibility for lawns or landscaping within the rear yard of any Unit if the yard has been enclosed by the addition of fencing along the rear lot boundary;

(c) maintenance, including, mowing, fertilizing, watering (if Builder installs irrigation) pruning and replacing of, and controlling disease and insects on, as needed, all lawns and landscaping on all property adjacent to the Units for which the Owners of the Units would otherwise be responsible pursuant to Section 5.1(b) of the Declaration;

(d) the following maintenance of improvements erected or installed by a Builder as part of the original construction on the Units, and replacements thereof:

(i) exterior facade of the dwelling on each Unit, excluding the foundation or slab;

(ii) painting of all exterior painted portions of any dwelling, including any carport, garage, garage door, exterior doors, shutters, facia on the dwelling, and any fence erected along the Unit boundaries as part of the Builder's original construction on the Units or replacements thereof ("**Boundary Fences**");

(iii) caulking of the exterior portions of all windows and doors;

(iv) repair and/or replacement, as necessary, of the roofs (including shingles and roof decking) of dwellings and garages, including the roofs of any porches built as part of the original construction of the dwelling or replacements thereof;

(v) cleaning, repair and replacement of gutters and downspouts;

(vi) pressure cleaning, repair, and replacement of driveways, parking areas and sidewalks;

(e) [Intentionally Deleted];

(f) repair and replacement, as necessary, of any Boundary Fences;

(g) operation, maintenance, repair and replacement, as necessary, of any irrigation equipment (including, without limitation, any sprinklers, pumps, wells, private water and sewer laterals and time clocks, wherever located) serving the Units and property adjacent to the Units for which the Owners of the Units would otherwise be responsible under Section 5.1 of the Declaration, except that the Association shall have no responsibility for any sprinklers or other irrigation equipment installed by the Owner or occupant of any Unit and except that nothing in this Article III shall in any way obligate a Builder to install any irrigation system(s) to serve the Units; and

(h) termite treatment of all exterior walls and foundations of a dwelling and garage; provided, however, that the Association shall not be liable if such treatment proves to be ineffective.

Notwithstanding the above, the Board may, upon request of an Owner, permit the Owner to maintain landscaping within the rear yard of the Unit, subject to the right of the Association to reassume responsibility for such maintenance at any time if the Board determines, in its judgment, that the Owner is not maintaining such landscaping to the Community-Wide Standard. If the Board permits an Owner to maintain landscaping within the rear yard of the Owner's Unit, there shall be no reduction or abatement in the Assessments due on any Unit hereunder by reason of the Owner providing such maintenance.

The Association shall not be responsible for any maintenance or repairs to any chimney, fireplace, window or door, including garage doors (other than painting and caulking as provided above), anything contained within any dwelling or garage, or any landscaping, improvements or modifications added or made to any Unit after the conveyance of the Unit to the first Owner following completion of the initial improvements thereon.

Maintenance of all other portions of the Units, including any landscaping or improvements installed by the Owners or occupants of any Unit, shall be the responsibility of the respective Owners.

All maintenance on Units shall be performed in a manner and on a schedule consistent with the Governing Documents, the Community-Wide Standard and all applicable covenants, except that there shall be no right to remove trees, shrubs or similar vegetation without prior approval pursuant to Article IV.

Notwithstanding the above, the Association's responsibilities under this Section 5.2 shall not commence with respect to a particular Unit until the requirements of Section 5.3 have been satisfied.

5.3 Completion.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any contract or agreement between the Builder and any third party for purchase of the Unit, no Builder shall convey a Unit without the prior written consent of Declarant until issuance of a certificate of occupancy for such dwelling and related improvements by Gaston County, North Carolina.

By its conveyance of any dwelling to a third party, Builder shall be deemed to represent and warrant to such third party and the Association that such dwelling complies with the conditions set forth in the paragraph above.

5.4 Insurance.

(a) Property Coverage. Unless otherwise determined by resolution of the Board and at least 30 days' prior written notice to each Owner, the Association shall obtain as a Common Expense a blanket insurance policy providing property insurance coverage for all structures on Units (exclusive of the personal property of Owners and improvements made by Owners), and the Owners shall be relieved of their insurance responsibility under this Declaration to the extent such insurance is carried by the Association. If the Association discontinues such insurance as provided herein, each Owner shall immediately obtain in his or her own name and at his or her own expense the insurance coverage for such Owner's Unit required pursuant to this Declaration.

(b) Liability Coverage. Every Owner shall be obligated to obtain and maintain at all times insurance covering consequential damages to any other Unit or the Common Area due to occurrences originating within the Owner's Unit caused by the negligence of the Owner, the failure of the Owner to maintain the Unit, and any other casualty within the Unit which causes damage to the Units or the Common Area, to the extent such coverage is not provided by policies maintained by the Association or to the extent insurable losses may result in the Owner's liability

for payment of deductibles under the Association's policies. Such insurance policy or policies shall name the Association as an additional insured.

(c) Evidence of Coverage. Each Owner of a Unit shall submit to the Association, with payment of the annual Base Assessment for such Unit and within 10 days of any written request from the Board of Directors, a certificate or certificates evidencing that all insurance coverage which the Owner is obligated to provide under the Declaration and this Supplemental Declaration is in effect. In addition, if the Board so requests, each Owner shall file with the Association a copy of the individual policy or policies covering his or her Unit. Each Owner shall promptly notify the Board in writing in the event such policy on his or her Unit is canceled.

(d) Failure to Maintain Insurance. In the event that an Owner fails to obtain or maintain any insurance that the Owner is required to obtain under the Declaration or hereunder, the Association may, but shall not be obligated to, obtain such insurance on behalf of the Owner and assess the costs thereof to the Owner and the Owner's Unit as a Specific Assessment. In no event shall the Association be responsible for the failure to monitor Owner compliance with Sections 5.4(b) or (c) above or for failure to obtain insurance on behalf of an Owner pursuant to this Section 5.4(d).

(e) Warranties. Notwithstanding the Association's maintenance and repair obligations hereunder, to the extent that any maintenance or repair required to be performed by the Association relates to matters that are covered by any warranties granted or made in favor of an Owner or insurance policies issued to or held by an Owner, or if such Owner has a claim or right against a third party in connection with the construction of that Owner's Unit or any Common Area, then the Association shall have the right to pursue such claim, warranty and/or insurance coverage and shall be fully subrogated and entitled to prosecute and enforce all of the rights of the Owner with respect to such claim, right, warranty and/or insurance coverage. Furthermore, each Owner agrees to reasonably cooperate with the Association in good faith to enforce any rights, warranties or pursue any insurance coverage or third party claims received by that Owner in connection with the purchase of a Unit, including, but not limited to, any limited warranty Owner receives from the Builder of the Unit.

5.5 Responsibility for Repair and Replacement; Casualty Losses.

Regardless of whether the insurance on the Units is obtained by the Association or the Owners, in the event of a casualty loss, the Association shall be entitled to file a claim against such insurance for the cost of any repair or reconstruction to the Unit and improvements thereon to the extent the Association is responsible to repair or replace the same pursuant to Section 7.4(c), and the Owner shall pay the amount of any deductible and shall be responsible for any deficiency in the insurance proceeds. The Association shall be entitled to adjust with the insurance provider the amount of any proceeds payable to the Association and the Owner thereunder, based upon the amount necessary to enable the Owner and the Association each to repair and replace those portions of the Unit and improvements thereon which are their respective responsibilities.

If an Owner is required to maintain property insurance on his or her Unit and such insurance is insufficient, the Association shall be relieved of its obligations to maintain, repair

and replace damaged or destroyed portions of such Owner's Unit, to the extent of such insufficiency. Alternatively, the Association may perform required repairs, whether the responsibility of the Association or the Owner, and assess all costs to the Owner and the Owner's Unit as a Specific Assessment.

5.6 Costs.

Notwithstanding any contrary provision in this Declaration, the cost of all maintenance, repairs and replacements performed by the Association pursuant to Section 5.2 on all Units or Limited Common Areas within a Service Area and the cost of any insurance provided by the Association pursuant to Section 5.4 on all Units or Limited Common Areas within a Service Area, shall be allocated among all of the Units within the Service Area as a Service Area Assessment pursuant to Sections 7.3 and 8.1(c) of this Declaration. The Board may establish different levels of assessment for Units within the same Service Area to account for differences in expenses associated with exterior maintenance, insurance or replacement reserves for dwellings of different types or sizes, as the Board may reasonably determine.

Unless otherwise specifically provided in the Governing Documents or in other instruments creating and assigning maintenance responsibility, responsibility for maintenance shall include responsibility for repair and replacement as necessary to maintain the property to a level consistent with the Community-Wide Standard.

Neither the Association nor Declarant shall bear any responsibility for the maintenance or safekeeping of personal property of any Owner or occupant of a Unit, their family, guests or invitees, nor shall the Association or Declarant be held liable for the condition of, or any loss or damage to, any such personal property except to the extent directly attributable to the reckless acts or willful misconduct of the Association, Declarant or their respective agents or employees.

PART THREE: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

This Declaration establishes the Association as a mechanism by which each Owner is able to participate in the governance and administration of Water's Edge. While many powers and responsibilities are vested in the Association's board of directors in order to facilitate day-to-day management and operation, some decisions are considered of such importance that they are reserved for the Association's membership -- the owners of property in Water's Edge.

Article VI The Association and its Members

6.1 Function of Association.

The Association has been established to administer Water's Edge in accordance with the Governing Documents. Its responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) management, maintenance, operation and control of the Area of Common Responsibility; and
- (b) interpretation and enforcement of the Governing Documents; and
- (c) establishing and upholding the Community-Wide Standard; and
- (d) upon delegation or termination of Declarant's authority under Article IV, administering the architectural review process for Water's Edge, as provided in that Article.

6.2 Membership.

(a) Classes of Membership. The Association initially shall have two classes of membership, Class "A" and Class "B". Class "A" Members shall be all Owners, except that Declarant shall not be considered a Class "A" Member during any period that the Class "B" Membership is in effect and not under temporary suspension. The sole Class "B" Member shall be the Declarant. The Class "B" membership shall be temporarily suspended during any period that the Declarant does not own a Unit, subject to automatic reinstatement upon Declarant's acquisition of any Unit or annexation of additional property pursuant to Article IX; however, such temporary suspension shall not suspend, terminate, or otherwise affect the Class "B" Control Period. The Class "B" membership shall terminate upon the earlier of:

- (i) the date that 75% of the total number of Units permitted by the Master Plan for the property described in Exhibits "A" and "B" have certificates of occupancy issued thereon and have been conveyed to Class "A" Members other than Builders; or
- (ii) 20 years from the date of recording of this Declaration; or
- (iii) such earlier date as the Class "B" Member, in its sole discretion, executes and records a written notice voluntarily terminating the Class "B" membership.

Upon termination of the Class "B" membership, Declarant shall hold a Class "A" membership for each Unit that it owns.

(b) Automatic Membership; Exercise of Privileges. Every Owner automatically becomes a Member of the Association upon taking title to a Unit and remains a Member as long as the Owner holds title to such Unit. There shall be only one membership per Unit. If a Unit is owned by more than one Person, all co-Owners shall share the privileges of such membership, subject to reasonable Board regulation and the restrictions on voting set forth in Section 6.3 and in the By-Laws, and all such co-Owners shall be jointly and severally obligated to perform the responsibilities of Owners. The membership rights of an Owner that is not a natural person may be exercised by any officer, director, partner or trustee, or by the individual designated from time to time by the Owner in a written instrument provided to the Secretary of the Association.

6.3 Voting.

The voting rights of each class of membership shall be as follows:

(a) Class "A". Each Unit owned by a Class "A" Member is assigned one vote equal to that of every other Unit owned by a Class "A" Member. If there is more than one Owner of a Unit, the vote for such Unit shall be exercised as the co-Owners determine among themselves and advise the Secretary of the Association in writing prior to the vote being taken. Absent such advice, the Unit's vote shall be suspended if more than one Person seeks to exercise it.

No vote shall be exercised for any property that is exempt from assessment under Section 8.7.

(b) Class "B". The Class "B" Member shall not have voting rights relative to the number of Units it owns; rather, the consent of the Class "B" Member shall be required for various actions of the Board, the membership and committees, as specifically provided elsewhere in the Governing Documents. In addition, the Class "B" Member may appoint a majority of the members of the Board of Directors during the Class "B" Control Period, as specified in Article III of the By-Laws. Additional rights of the Class "B" Member are specified in the relevant sections of the Governing Documents. In addition, the Class "B" Member shall have a right to disapprove actions of the Board and committees as provided in the By-Laws.

Article VII Association Powers and Responsibilities

7.1 Acceptance and Control of Association Property.

(a) The Association, through action of its Board, may acquire, hold, lease (as lessor or lessee), operate and dispose of tangible and intangible personal property and real property, subject to the provisions of Article XVII. The Association may enter into leases, licenses or operating agreements for portions of the Common Area, for such consideration or no consideration as the Board deems appropriate, to permit use of such portions of the Common Area by community organizations and by others, whether nonprofit or for profit, for the provision of goods or services for the general benefit or convenience of owners, occupants and residents of Water's Edge.

(b) Declarant, any Declarant Affiliate, and their respective designees may convey to the Association, and the Association shall accept, personal property and fee title, leasehold or other property interests in any real property, improved or unimproved, described in Exhibits "A"

or "B". Upon Declarant's written request, the Association shall reconvey to Declarant marketable (lien-free) fee simple title to any unimproved portions of the Common Area which Declarant originally conveyed to the Association for no consideration, to the extent conveyed by Declarant in error or needed by Declarant to make minor adjustments in property lines.

(c) The Association shall be responsible for management, operation and control of the Common Area, subject to any covenants and restrictions set forth in the deed or other instrument transferring such property to the Association. The Board may adopt such reasonable rules regulating use of the Common Area as it deems appropriate.

7.2 Maintenance of Area of Common Responsibility.

The Association shall maintain the Area of Common Responsibility in accordance with the Community-Wide Standard. The Area of Common Responsibility shall include, but need not be limited to:

(a) all portions of and structures and landscaping (if any) situated on the Common Area; and

(b) all streets and parking areas within Water's Edge unless and until such time as they are accepted by a public body for perpetual maintenance; and

(c) any landscaping, signage, street lights (including, without limitation, any related leasing, electricity or other associated fees) and sidewalks, pathways and walkways within public or private rights-of-way or sidewalk, pathway or walkway easements lying within or abutting Water's Edge, except to the extent such responsibility is otherwise assigned under Section 5.1, or is assumed by a governmental body or utility provider; and

(d) such portions of any additional property included within the Area of Common Responsibility as may be dictated by this Declaration, any Supplemental Declaration, or any contract or agreement for maintenance thereof entered into by the Association; and

(e) any pipes, lines, pumps, or other apparatus comprising the irrigation system serving the Common Area, to the extent located within Common Area, rights-of-way, or easements granted to the Association, and serving Units, if there is a common irrigation system for all Units; and

(f) any property and facilities Declarant owns and makes available, on a temporary or permanent basis, for the primary use and enjoyment of the Association and its Members. Such property and facilities shall be identified by written notice from Declarant to the Association and will remain part of the Area of Common Responsibility maintained by the Association until such time as Declarant revokes such privilege of use and enjoyment by written notice to the Association.

The Association may maintain other property that it does not own, including, without limitation, property dedicated to the public, if the Board of Directors determines that such maintenance is necessary or desirable to maintain the Community-Wide Standard.

The Association shall not be liable for any damage or injury occurring on or arising out of the condition of property that it does not own except to the extent that it has been grossly negligent in the performance of its maintenance responsibilities.

Notwithstanding the above, some portions of the Area of Common Responsibility may consist of open space or conservancy areas intentionally left in a natural or relatively undisturbed state. The level of maintenance that the Association provides to the Area of Common Responsibility may vary from a high level of landscaping and regular, weekly maintenance to intermittent or no maintenance, depending on the nature and intended use of the particular open space area. Open space or other natural areas may serve as habitats for a variety of native plant, animal, and insect species, and may contain creeks, fallen trees and other naturally occurring conditions, some of which may pose hazards to persons or pets coming in contact with them. Neither the Association, the Declarant, nor any Builder shall have any responsibility for providing maintenance in such areas or taking action to abate such conditions.

The Association shall maintain the facilities and equipment within the Area of Common Responsibility in continuous operation, except for any periods necessary, as determined in the Board's sole discretion, to perform required maintenance or repairs, unless Voting Members representing 75% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association and, during the Development and Sale Period, the Declarant, agree in writing to discontinue such operation.

Except as provided above, the Area of Common Responsibility shall not be reduced without Declarant's prior written approval as long as Declarant owns any property described in Exhibits "A" or "B" of this Declaration.

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Declaration or any applicable Supplemental Declaration, the costs associated with maintenance, repair and replacement of the Area of Common Responsibility shall be a Common Expense, subject to the right of the Association to seek reimbursement from the owner(s) of, or other Persons responsible for, certain portions of the Area of Common Responsibility pursuant to this Declaration, other recorded covenants, or agreements with the owner(s) thereof. The costs that the Association incurs or expects to incur for maintenance, repair and replacement of Limited Common Areas shall be a Service Area Expense assessed against the Units within the Service Area to which the Limited Common Areas are assigned.

7.3 Provision of Benefits and Services to Service Areas.

(a) The Declarant, on Exhibit "A" to this Declaration and/or by Supplemental Declaration submitting additional property to this Declaration, may assign the submitted property to one or more Service Areas (by name or other identifying designation) as it deems appropriate, which Service Areas may be then existing or newly created, and may require that the Association provide benefits or services to such Units in addition to those which the Association generally provides to all Units. So long as it has the right to subject additional property to this Declaration pursuant to Section 9.1, Declarant may unilaterally amend this Declaration or any Supplemental Declaration to redesignate Service Area boundaries. All costs associated with the provision of services or benefits to a Service Area shall be assessed against the Units within the Service Area as a Service Area Assessment.

(b) In addition to Service Areas which Declarant may designate, any group of Owners may petition the Board to designate their Units as a Service Area for the purpose of receiving from the Association (a) special benefits or services which are not provided to all Units, or (b) a higher level of service than the Association otherwise provides. Upon receipt of such petition signed by Owners of a majority of the Units within the proposed Service Area, the Board shall investigate the terms upon which the requested benefits or services might be provided and notify the Owners in the proposed Service Area of such terms and the charge to made therefor, which may include a reasonable administrative charge in such amount as the Board deems appropriate (provided, any such administrative charge shall apply at a uniform rate per Unit among all Service Areas receiving the same service). Upon written approval of the proposal by Owners of at least 67% of the Units within the proposed Service Area, the Association shall provide the requested benefits or services on the terms set forth in the proposal. The cost and administrative charges associated with such benefits or services shall be assessed against the Units within such Service Area as a Service Area Assessment, subject to the right of the Owners of Units within the Service Area to veto the budget for their Service Area as provided in Section 8.2.

7.4 Insurance.

(a) Required Coverages. The Association, acting through its Board or its duly authorized agent, shall obtain and continue in effect the following types of insurance, if reasonably available, or if not reasonably available, the most nearly equivalent coverages as are reasonably available:

(i) Blanket property insurance covering "risks of direct physical loss" on a "special form" basis (or comparable coverage by whatever name denominated) for all insurable improvements on the Common Area and within the Area of Common Responsibility to the extent that Association has assumed responsibility in the event of a casualty, regardless of ownership. If such coverage is not generally available at reasonable cost, then "broad form" coverage may be substituted. All property insurance policies obtained by the Association shall have policy limits sufficient to cover the full replacement cost of the insured improvements under current building ordinances and codes; and

(ii) Commercial general liability insurance on the Area of Common Responsibility, insuring the Association and its Members for damage or injury caused by the negligence of the Association or any of its Members, employees, agents, or contractors while acting on its behalf. If generally available at reasonable cost, such coverage (including primary and any umbrella coverage) shall have a limit of at least \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence with respect to bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage; provided, should additional coverage and higher limits be available at reasonable cost which a reasonably prudent person would obtain, the Association may obtain such additional coverages or limits; and

(iii) Workers compensation insurance and employers liability insurance, if and to the extent required by law; and

(iv) Directors and officers liability coverage; and

(v) Commercial crime insurance, including fidelity insurance covering all Persons responsible for handling Association funds in an amount determined in the Board's business judgment but not less than an amount equal to one-quarter of the annual General Assessments on all Units plus reserves on hand. Fidelity insurance policies shall contain a waiver of all defenses based upon the exclusion of Persons serving without compensation; and

(vi) Such additional insurance as the Board, in the exercise of its business judgment, determines advisable.

In addition, the Association shall, if so specified in a Supplemental Declaration applicable to any Service Area, obtain and maintain property insurance on the insurable improvements within such Service Area, which insurance shall comply with the requirements of Section 7.4(a)(i). Any such policies shall provide for a certificate of insurance to be furnished upon request to the Owner of each Unit insured.

Premiums for all insurance on the Area of Common Responsibility shall be Common Expenses, except that (i) premiums for property insurance on Units within a Service Area shall be a Service Area Expense; and (ii) premiums for insurance on Limited Common Areas shall be a Service Area Expense of the Service Area to which such Limited Common Areas are assigned, unless the Board reasonably determines that other treatment of the premiums is more appropriate.

(b) Policy Requirements. The Association shall arrange for a periodic review of the sufficiency of its insurance coverage by one or more qualified Persons, at least one of whom must be familiar with insurable replacement costs in Gaston County, North Carolina area. All Association policies shall provide for a certificate of insurance to be furnished to the Association and, upon request, to each Member.

The policies may contain a reasonable deductible and the amount thereof shall not be subtracted from the face amount of the policy in determining whether the policy limits satisfy the requirements of Section 7.4(a). In the event of an insured loss, the deductible shall be treated as a Common Expense or a Service Area Expense in the same manner as the premiums for the applicable insurance coverage. However, if the Board reasonably determines, after notice and an opportunity to be heard in accordance with the By-Laws, that the loss is the result of the negligence or willful misconduct of one or more Owners, their guests, invitees, or lessees, then the Board may assess the full amount of such deductible against such Owner(s) and their Units as a Specific Assessment.

All insurance coverage obtained by the Board shall:

(i) be written with a company authorized to do business in North Carolina which satisfies the requirements of the Federal National Mortgage Association, or such other secondary mortgage market agencies or federal agencies as the Board deems appropriate; and

(ii) be written in the name of the Association as trustee for the benefited parties. Policies on the Common Areas shall be for the benefit of the Association and its Members. Policies secured on behalf of a Service Area shall be for the benefit of the Owners within the Service Area and their Mortgagees, as their interests may appear; and

(iii) be primary and not be brought into contribution with insurance purchased by Owners, occupants, or their Mortgagees individually; and

(iv) contain an inflation guard endorsement; and

(v) include an agreed amount endorsement, if the policy contains a co-insurance clause; and

(vi) provide that each Owner is an insured person under the policy with respect to liability arising out of such Owner's interest in the Common Area as a Member in the Association (provided, this provision shall not be construed as giving an Owner any interest in the Common Area other than that of a Member); and

(vii) provide a waiver of subrogation under the policy against any Owner or occupant of any Unit; and

(viii) include an endorsement precluding cancellation, invalidation, suspension, or non-renewal by the insurer on account of any curable defect or violation without prior written demand to the Association to cure the defect or violation and allowance of a reasonable time to cure; and

(ix) include an endorsement precluding cancellation, invalidation, or condition to recovery under the policy on account of any act or omission of any one or more individual Owners or members of their households, unless such Owner is acting within the scope of its authority on behalf of the Association.

In addition, the Board shall use reasonable efforts to secure insurance policies that list the Owners as additional insureds and provide:

(i) a waiver of subrogation as to any claims against the Association's Board, officers, employees, and its manager, the Owners and their tenants, servants, agents, and guests; and

(ii) a waiver of the insurer's rights to repair and reconstruct instead of paying cash; and

(iii) an endorsement requiring at least 30 days' prior written notice to the Association of any cancellation, substantial modification, or non-renewal; and

(iv) a cross liability provision; and

(v) a provision vesting in the Board exclusive authority to adjust losses; provided, however, no Mortgagee having an interest in such losses may be prohibited from participating in the settlement negotiations, if any, related to the loss.

(c) Restoring Damaged Improvements. In the event of damage to or destruction of Common Area or other property which the Association insures, the Board or its duly authorized agent shall file and adjust all insurance claims and obtain reliable and detailed estimates of the

cost of repairing or restoring the property to substantially the condition in which it existed prior to the damage, allowing for changes or improvements necessitated by changes in applicable building codes.

The Association shall cause such damaged improvements to be repaired or reconstructed unless a decision not to repair or reconstruct is approved within 60 days after the loss or damage by Owners of at least 80% of the Units, including the 100% of the Units to which any Limited Common Area is assigned, if the damaged improvements are Limited Common Area, and during the Development and Sale Period, by the Declarant. If either the insurance proceeds or estimates of the loss, or both, are not available to the Association within such 60-day period, then the period shall be extended until such funds or information are available. However, such extension shall not exceed 60 additional days. No Mortgagee shall have the right to participate in the determination of whether the damage or destruction to the Common Area shall be repaired or reconstructed.

If a decision is made not to restore the damaged improvements and no alternative improvements are authorized, the affected property shall be cleared of all debris and ruins and thereafter shall be maintained by the Association in a neat and attractive, landscaped condition consistent with the Community-Wide Standard.

Any insurance proceeds remaining after paying the costs of repair or reconstruction, or after such settlement as is necessary and appropriate, shall be distributed as follows: (i) to the extent that the excess insurance proceeds are attributable to damaged improvements on Units or constituting Limited Common Area that are not rebuilt, they shall be distributed to the Owners of Units whose dwellings are not rebuilt or to which such Limited Common Area was assigned or to their Mortgagees, as their interests may appear; and (ii) the remainder shall be distributed to all of the Owners or their Mortgagees, as their interests may appear, at an equal rate per Unit.

If insurance proceeds are insufficient to cover the costs of repair or reconstruction, the Board may, without a vote of the Members, levy Special Assessments to cover the shortfall against those Owners responsible for the premiums for the applicable insurance coverage under Section 7.4(a).

7.5 Compliance and Enforcement.

(a) Every Owner and occupant of a Unit shall comply with the Governing Documents. The Board may impose sanctions for violation of the Governing Documents as set forth in this Section 7.5 and elsewhere in the Governing Documents.

(b) The Board may impose the following sanctions only after notice and a hearing in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article VIII of the By-Laws:

(i) imposing reasonable monetary fines (each fine shall not exceed the maximum amount allowed by law) which shall constitute a lien upon the violator's Unit (in the event that any occupant, guest or invitee of a Unit violates the Governing Documents and a fine is imposed, the fine shall first be assessed against the violator; provided, however, if the fine is not paid by the violator within the time period set by the Board, the Owner shall pay the fine upon notice from the Board); and

(ii) suspending the vote attributable to a violating Owner's Unit, suspending the privilege of using any recreational facilities within the Common Area, and suspending any services which the Association provides to an Owner or the Owner's Unit, during any period that the Owner is more than 30 days delinquent in paying any assessment or other charge owed to the Association or for a reasonable period for other violations of the Governing Documents; and

(iii) without liability to any Person, precluding any contractor, subcontractor, agent, employee or other invitee of an Owner who fails to comply with the terms and provisions of Article IV and the Architectural Guidelines from continuing or performing any further activities in Water's Edge; and

(iv) levying Specific Assessments pursuant to Section 8.4 to cover costs which the Association incurs to bring a Unit into compliance with the Governing Documents, or costs incurred as a consequence of the conduct of an Owner or occupant of a Unit, their guests or invitees.

(c) In addition, the Association, acting through the Board or its designee, may take the following action to enforce the Governing Documents without the necessity of compliance with the procedures set forth in Article VIII of the By-Laws:

(i) requiring an Owner, at its own expense, to perform maintenance on such Owner's Unit, or to remove any structure, item or improvement on such Owner's Unit in violation of the Governing Documents and to restore the Unit to its previous condition; or

(ii) entering the property and exercising self-help to remove or cure a violating condition upon failure of an Owner to take action as required pursuant to subsection (i) above within 10 days after receipt of written notice to do so, and any such entry shall not be deemed a trespass; or

(iii) exercising self-help in any situation which requires prompt action to avoid potential injury or damage or unreasonable inconvenience to other persons or their property (specifically including, but not limited to, the towing of vehicles that are in violation of parking rules and regulations); and/or

(iv) bringing suit at law or in equity to enjoin any violation or to recover monetary damages or both, subject to the procedures set forth in Article XIV, if applicable.

(d) All remedies set forth in the Governing Documents shall be cumulative of any remedies available at law or in equity. In any action to enforce the Governing Documents, if the Association prevails, it shall be entitled to recover all costs, including, without limitation, attorneys fees and court costs, reasonably incurred in such action.

(e) The decision to pursue enforcement action in any particular case shall be left to the Board's discretion, except that the Board shall not be arbitrary or capricious in taking enforcement action. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing sentence, the Board may determine that, under the circumstances of a particular case:

- (i) the Association's position is not strong enough to justify taking any or further action; or
- (ii) the covenant, restriction or rule being enforced is, or is likely to be construed as, inconsistent with applicable law; or
- (iii) although a technical violation may exist or may have occurred, it is not of such a material nature as to be objectionable to a reasonable person or to justify expending the Association's resources; or
- (iv) it is not in the Association's best interests, based upon hardship, expense, or other reasonable criteria, to pursue enforcement action.

Such a decision shall not be construed a waiver of the right of the Association to enforce such provision at a later time under other circumstances or preclude the Association from enforcing any other covenant, restriction or rule.

(f) The Association, by contract or other agreement, may enforce applicable town and county ordinances and permit Gaston County to enforce ordinances within Water's Edge for the benefit of the Association and its Members.

7.6 Implied Rights; Board Authority.

The Association may exercise any right or privilege given to it expressly by the Governing Documents, or reasonably implied from or reasonably necessary to effectuate any such right or privilege. All rights and powers of the Association may be exercised by the Board without a vote of the membership except to the extent that the Governing Documents or North Carolina law specifically require a vote of the membership.

The Board may institute, defend, settle, or intervene on behalf of the Association in mediation, binding or non-binding arbitration, litigation, or administrative proceedings in matters pertaining to the Area of Common Responsibility, enforcement of the Governing Documents, or any other civil claim or action. However, the Governing Documents shall not be construed as creating any independent legal duty to institute litigation on behalf of or in the name of the Association or its Members.

In exercising the rights and powers of the Association, making decisions on behalf of the Association, and conducting the Association's affairs, Board members shall be subject to, and their actions shall be judged in accordance with, the standards set forth in Article VI of the By-Laws.

7.7 Provision of Services to Units.

The Association may provide, or provide for, services and facilities for the Owners and their Units, and shall be authorized to enter into and terminate contracts or agreements with other entities, including Declarant, to provide such services and facilities. The Board may charge use or service fees for any such services and facilities provided at the option of an Owner, or may include the costs thereof in the Association's budget as a Common Expense and assess it as part

of the General Assessment if provided to all Units. By way of example, such services and facilities might include trash collection, landscape maintenance; pest control service; cable, digital, satellite or similar television service; telecommunication and internet connection services; security monitoring; utilities; and other services and facilities.

Nothing in this Section shall be construed as a representation by Declarant or the Association as to what, if any, services shall be provided. In addition, the Board shall be permitted to modify or cancel existing contracts for services in its discretion, unless the provision of such services is otherwise required by the Governing Documents. Non-use of services provided to all Owners or Units as a Common Expense shall not exempt any Owner from the obligation to pay assessments for such services.

7.8 Relationships with Other Properties.

The Association may enter into contractual agreements or covenants to share costs with any neighboring property to contribute funds for, among other things, shared or mutually beneficial property or services and/or a higher level of Common Area maintenance.

7.9 Use of Technology.

The Association may, as a Common Expense, provide for or offer services that make use of technological opportunities to facilitate the goals and fulfill the responsibilities of the Association. For example, to the extent North Carolina law permits, and unless otherwise specifically prohibited in the Governing Documents, the Association may send required notices by electronic means; hold Board or Association meetings and permit attendance and voting by electronic means; collect assessments by electronic means; sponsor a community cable television channel; create and maintain a community intranet or Internet homepage; and maintain an "online" newsletter or bulletin board.

7.10 Safety and Security.

The Association may, but shall not be obligated to, maintain or support certain activities within Water's Edge designed to enhance the level of safety or security that each person provides for himself and his property. However, no representation or warranty is made that any systems or measures, including any mechanism or system for limiting access to Water's Edge or any portion thereof, cannot be compromised or circumvented, nor that any such systems or security measures undertaken will in all cases prevent loss or provide the detection or protection for which the system is designed or intended. Neither the Association, the Declarant, the Builders, nor the members, partners, affiliates, officers, directors, agents or employees of any of the foregoing, shall in any way be considered insurers or guarantors of safety or security within Water's Edge, nor shall either be held liable for any loss or damage by reason of failure to provide adequate security or ineffectiveness of security measures undertaken.

Each Owner and occupant of a Unit, and their respective guests and invitees, shall be responsible for their own personal safety and the security of their property in Water's Edge and each of them assumes all risks of personal injury and loss or damage to their property, including Units and their contents, resulting from acts of third parties.

7.11 Publishing Names and Addresses of Elected Officers and Board Members.

The Association shall publish to all Members the names and addresses of all officers and members of the Board within thirty (30) days of their election.

Article VIII Association Finances

8.1 Authority to Levy Assessments for Association Expenses.

(a) Purposes and Types. There are hereby created, and the Association is hereby authorized to levy, assessments for expenses incurred or anticipated to be incurred by the Association in performing its responsibilities and exercising its rights and powers under this Declaration, any Supplemental Declaration, the Articles and the Bylaws, specifically including but not limited to: expenses of maintaining, repairing, replacing, improving, operating, and insuring the Area of Common Responsibility, including amounts due to third parties who perform such tasks on behalf of the Association, and the costs of labor, equipment, materials, management, supervision and utilities; taxes, if any, imposed on the Association or the Common Area; the cost of insurance and fidelity bond coverage obtained pursuant to Section 7.4; the cost of water or other utilities provided to the Area of Common Responsibility, and to Units if metered through a master meter and billed to the Association; expenses of monitoring and enforcing compliance with the provisions of the Governing Documents; expenses arising out of the Association's indemnification obligations; expenses arising out of any measure undertaken to enhance the safety of the Owners and occupants of Units; expenses incurred in exercising architectural control under Article IV; expenses of managing the Association, including compensation of management personnel, maintaining books and records, handling Association funds, providing financial reports, and corresponding with Members; administrative expenses such as postage, copying expense, office supplies and equipment; legal, accounting, and other professional fees; costs associated with the Piers and Boatslips, including the construction, repair or replacement of any Piers or Boatslips and any rent or other charges imposed by Duke Energy Corporation, its successors and assigns ("Duke") or applicable governmental authorities; and such other expenses as the Board deems necessary or desirable to keep the Common Area in good, clean, and attractive condition and to maintain and enhance property values and marketability of Units.

There shall be four types of assessments: (a) General Assessments; (b) Service Area Assessments; (c) Special Assessments as described in Section 8.3; and (d) Specific Assessments as described in Section 8.4. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or entering into a recorded contract of sale for any Unit, is deemed to covenant and agree to pay these assessments. Such assessments shall commence at the time and in the manner set forth in Section 8.5.

(b) Personal Obligation and Lien. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or entering into a recorded contract of sale for any portion of Water's Edge, is deemed to covenant and agree to pay all assessments authorized in the Governing Documents. All assessments, together with interest (computed from its due date at the greater of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per month or ten percent (10%) of any assessment installment unpaid), late charges as determined by Board resolution (subject to the limitations of North Carolina law), costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees, shall be the personal obligation of each Owner, and a charge and continuing lien upon each

Unit as provided in Section 8.6, until paid in full. Upon a transfer of title to a Unit, the grantee shall be jointly and severally liable for any assessments and other charges due at the time of conveyance. However, no Mortgagee who obtains title to a Unit by exercising the remedies provided in its Mortgage shall be liable for unpaid assessments that accrued prior to such acquisition of title.

Failure of the Board to fix assessment amounts or rates or to deliver or mail each Owner an assessment notice shall not be deemed a waiver, modification, or a release of any Owner from the obligation to pay assessments. In such event, each Owner shall continue to pay General Assessments and Service Area Assessments on the same basis as during the last year for which an assessment was made, if any, until a new assessment is levied, at which time the Association may retroactively assess any shortfall.

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

Within 10 business days after receipt of a written request therefor, the Association shall furnish to any Owner liable for any type of assessment a certificate in writing signed by an Association officer setting forth the amount of any unpaid assessments or other charges levied on the Unit. Such certificate shall be binding on the Association and every Owner. The Association may require the advance payment of a reasonable processing fee for the issuance of such certificate.

(c) Declarant's Obligations for Assessments. For each unimproved Unit that Declarant owns, as shown on a plat recorded by Declarant and as referenced on Exhibit A hereto or as annexed into Water's Edge by Supplemental Declaration, Declarant shall be responsible for paying the lesser of: (i) one quarter (1/4) of the amount of the General Assessment applicable to other Units (not owned by Declarant or a Builder) or (ii) that portion of the annual expenses of the Association (excluding any reserves) which exceeds the total amount of the annual assessments paid by the Owners other than Declarant.

8.2 Budgeting and Allocating Association Expenses.

(a) Preparation of Budget. At least 60 days before the beginning of each fiscal year, the Board shall prepare a budget of the estimated Common Expenses for the coming year. In addition, the Board shall prepare a separate budget for each Service Area reflecting the estimated Service Area Expenses that the Association expects to incur for the benefit of such Service Area in the coming year.

The estimated expenses in each budget shall include, in addition to any operating reserves, a reasonable contribution to a reserve fund for repair and replacement of any capital items to be maintained as a Common Expense or as a Service Area Expense of the Service Area for whom the budget is prepared, as applicable. In determining the amount of such reserve

contribution, the Board shall take into account the number and nature of replaceable assets, the expected useful life of each, the expected repair or replacement cost, and the contribution required to fund the projected need by an annual contribution over the useful life of the asset.

Each budget shall also reflect the sources and estimated amounts of funds to cover such expenses, which may include any surplus to be applied from prior years, any income expected from sources other than assessments levied against the Units.

(b) Calculation of General Assessments. Upon determining the total amount of income required to be generated through the levy of General Assessments, the Board shall establish the General Assessment at an equal rate per Unit. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article VII, the General Assessment applicable to any Unit owned by a Builder shall be one half (1/2) of the amount of the General Assessment applicable to other Units (not owned by Declarant or other Builders) until the earlier of: (i) one year following the issuance of a certificate of occupancy with respect to such Unit; or (ii) the lease (if permitted by the Restrictions and Rules) or conveyance of such Unit to a third party.

Declarant may, but shall not be obligated to, reduce the General Assessment for any fiscal year by payment of a subsidy. Any such subsidy may be treated as a contribution, an advance against future assessments due from Declarant, or a loan, in Declarant's discretion. Any such subsidy and the characterization thereof shall be conspicuously disclosed as a line item in the income portion of the budget. Payment of such subsidy in any year shall not obligate Declarant to continue payment of such subsidy in future years, unless otherwise provided in a written agreement between the Association and Declarant.

(c) Calculation of Service Area Assessments. Except as may otherwise be provided in this Declaration or any applicable Supplemental Declaration, the total amount of estimated Service Area Expenses for each Service Area shall be allocated equally among all Units in the benefited Service Area which are subject to assessment under Article VIII, to be levied as a Service Area Assessment; provided, unless otherwise specified in the applicable Supplemental Declaration, any portion of the assessment intended for exterior maintenance of structures, insurance on structures, or replacement reserves which pertain to particular structures, may be levied on each of the benefited Units in proportion to the benefit received, as the Board may reasonably determine.

All amounts that the Association collects as Service Area Assessments shall be held in trust for and expended solely for the benefit of the Service Area for which they were collected and shall be accounted for separately from the Association's general funds.

(d) Notice of Budget and Assessment; Ratification. Within 30 days following the Board's adoption of any budget, the Board shall send a summary of the applicable budget, together with notice of the amount of the General Assessment or Service Area Assessment to be levied pursuant to such budget, to each Owner to be assessed thereunder. The budget shall be accompanied by notice of the date, time and location of a meeting to consider ratification, which meeting shall be set by the Board to occur no less than 10 nor more than 60 days after mailing of the budget summary and notice. The notice shall include a statement that the meeting may be held and the budget may be ratified without a quorum being present.

If the proposed General Assessment does not exceed the applicable Maximum General Assessment described below, the budget shall be deemed ratified unless rejected at the meeting by Owners of at least 75% of the total number of Units then subject to the Declaration. The Service Area Expense budget for each Service Area shall be deemed ratified unless rejected by Owners of at least 75% of the total number of Units in the Service Area to which the budget applies, except that the right to reject a Service Area budget shall apply only to those line items which are attributable to services or benefits requested by the Service Area and shall not apply to any item which the Governing Documents require to be assessed as a Service Area Expense.

If the proposed General Assessment exceeds the Maximum General Assessment described herein, such budget and General Assessment shall be effective only upon approval of Owners entitled to cast at least 67% of the Class "A" votes represented at the meeting. The Maximum General Assessment shall be \$1,800.00 per fiscal year until December 31, 2007. Thereafter, the Maximum General Assessment shall automatically increase for each subsequent fiscal year by ten percent or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index during the previous fiscal year, whichever is greater (the "**Maximum General Assessment**"). The "Consumer Price Index" shall refer to the Consumer Price Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor for All Urban Consumers (South Region; Base: 1982-84 = 100). In the event the compilation and/or publication of the CPI shall be substantially revised, transferred to any other governmental department or bureau or agency or shall be discontinued, then the index (or a substitute procedure which reasonably reflects and monitors fluctuations in consumer prices) most nearly the same as the CPI shall be used to make the calculations envisioned herein, or in the event no such alternative index exists or a dispute arises concerning the selection of such alternative index, the Board shall have the final right and power to select and/or formulate such an alternate index.

If any proposed budget is rejected or the Board fails for any reason to determine the budget for any year, then the budget most recently in effect shall continue in effect until a new budget is determined.

(e) Budget Revisions. The Board may revise the budget and adjust the General Assessment or Service Area Assessments from time to time during the year, subject to the notice and ratification requirements set forth above.

8.3 Special Assessments.

In addition to other authorized assessments, the Association may levy Special Assessments from time to time to cover unbudgeted expenses or expenses in excess of those budgeted under Section 8.2. Any such Special Assessment may be levied against the entire membership, if such Special Assessment is for Common Expenses, or against the Units within any Service Area if such Special Assessment is for Service Area Expenses. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Declaration, any Special Assessment shall require the affirmative vote or written consent of Members entitled to cast more than 33% of the total votes allocated to Units which will be subject to such Special Assessment, and during the Development and Sale Period, the written consent of Declarant. Except as otherwise provided in Section 8.1(c), Special Assessments shall be levied equally on all Units subject to such assessment.

8.4 Specific Assessments.

The Association shall have the power to levy Specific Assessments against a particular Unit as follows:

(a) to cover the costs, including overhead and administrative costs, of providing services to the Unit upon request of the Owner pursuant to any menu of special services which the Association may offer (which might include the items identified in Section 7.8). Specific Assessments for special services may be levied in advance of the provision of the requested service; and

(b) to cover costs incurred in bringing the Unit into compliance with the Governing Documents, or costs incurred as a consequence of the conduct of the Owner or occupants of the Unit, their agents, contractors, employees, licensees, invitees, or guests; provided, the Board shall give the Unit Owner prior written notice and an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the By-Laws, before levying any Specific Assessment under this subsection (b).

8.5 Payment of Assessments.

Except as otherwise provided herein, the obligation to pay assessments shall commence as to each Unit on the first day of the month following: (a) the month in which the Unit is made subject to this Declaration, or (b) the month in which the Board first determines a budget and levies assessments pursuant to this Article, whichever is later. The first annual General Assessment levied on each Unit, whether levied at the partial or full rate, shall be adjusted according to the number of months remaining in the fiscal year at the time assessments commence on the Unit.

Assessments shall be paid in such manner and on such dates as the Board may establish. The Board may require advance payment of assessments at closing of the transfer of title to a Unit and impose special requirements for Owners with a history of delinquent payment. Unless the Board otherwise provides, the General Assessment and any Service Area Assessment shall be due and payable in twelve (12) equal monthly installments, which each installment payable in advance on the first day of each month during the fiscal year. If any Owner is delinquent in paying any assessments or other charges levied on his Unit, the Board may require the outstanding balance on all assessments to be paid in full immediately.

8.6 Lien for Assessments.

(a) Subject to North Carolina law, as it may be amended, the Association shall have a lien against each Unit in favor of the Association to secure payment of assessments, as well as interest, late charges (subject to the limitations of North Carolina law), and costs of collection (including attorneys fees and expenses). Subject to the limitations of North Carolina law, such lien shall be superior to all other liens, except (i) the liens of all taxes, bonds, assessments, and other levies which by law would be superior, and (ii) the lien or charge of any recorded first Mortgage (meaning any recorded Mortgage with first priority over other Mortgages) made in good faith and for value and recorded prior to the recording of a claim of lien pursuant to Section 8.6 (b). An Owner may not be required to pay attorneys' fees and court costs until the Owner is notified in writing of the Association's intent to seek payment of attorneys' fees and court costs.

The notice shall (i) set forth the outstanding balance due as of the date of the notice; (ii) state that the Owner has 15 days from the date of the mailing of the notice to pay the outstanding balance without the attorneys' fees and court costs; and (iii) advise the Owner of the opportunity to contact the named representative of the Association in the notice to discuss a payment schedule. If the Owner pays the outstanding balance within this period, then the Owner shall have no obligation to pay attorneys' fees and court costs.

(b) If any assessment or other charge due to the Association remains unpaid for a period of 30 days or longer after the due date thereof, the Association may perfect its lien by executing and recording a claim of lien setting forth the amount due. The lien may be foreclosed through judicial or, to the extent allowed by law, nonjudicial foreclosure proceedings in accordance with North Carolina law, as it may be amended.

(c) The Association may bid for the Unit at the foreclosure sale and acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, and convey the Unit. While a Unit is owned by the Association following foreclosure: (a) no right to vote shall be exercised on its behalf; (b) no assessment shall be levied on it; and (c) each other Unit shall be charged, in addition to its usual assessment, its pro rata share of the assessment that would have been charged such Unit had it not been acquired by the Association. The Association may sue for unpaid assessments and other charges authorized hereunder without foreclosing or waiving the lien securing the same, in addition to pursuing any and all remedies allowed by law to enforce the lien.

(d) Sale or transfer of any Unit shall not affect the assessment lien or relieve such Unit from the lien for any subsequent assessments. However, the sale or transfer of any Unit pursuant to foreclosure of the first Mortgage shall extinguish the lien as to any installments of such assessments due prior to the Mortgagee's foreclosure (for which a claim of lien was not filed prior to the Mortgage being foreclosed). The subsequent Owner of the foreclosed Unit shall not be personally liable for assessments on such Unit due prior to such acquisition of title. Such unpaid assessments shall be deemed to be Common Expenses collectible from Owners of all Units subject to assessment under Section 8.5, including such acquirer, its successors and assigns.

8.7 Exempt Property.

The following property shall be exempt from payment of General Assessments, Service Area Assessments, and Special Assessments:

(a) All Common Area and such portions of the property owned by Declarant as are included in the Area of Common Responsibility; and

(b) Any property dedicated to and accepted by any governmental authority or public utility.

In addition, Declarant and/or the Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, to grant exemptions to certain Persons qualifying for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code so long as such Persons own property subject to this Declaration for purposes listed in Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

8.8 Capitalization of Association.

Upon acquisition of record title to a Unit by the first Owner thereof other than Declarant or a Builder, a contribution shall be made by or on behalf of the purchaser to the working capital of the Association in an amount equal to $1/6^{\text{th}}$ (i.e. two (2) monthly payments) of the annual General Assessment per Unit for that year. This amount shall be in addition to, not in lieu of, the annual General Assessment and shall not be considered an advance payment of such assessment. This amount shall be deposited into the purchase and sales escrow and disbursed therefrom to the Association for use in covering operating expenses and other expenses incurred by the Association pursuant to this Declaration and the By-Laws.

PART FOUR: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Declaration reserves various rights to the developer in order to facilitate the smooth and orderly development of Water's Edge and to accommodate changes in the master plan that inevitably occur as a community such as Water's Edge is developed.

Article IX Expansion of the Community

9.1 Expansion by Declarant.

Declarant may from time to time expand Water's Edge to include all or any portion of the property described in Exhibit "B" by recording a Supplemental Declaration describing the additional property and stating the intent to submit it to the provisions of this Declaration. A Supplemental Declaration recorded pursuant to this Section shall not require the consent of any Person except the owner of such property, if other than Declarant.

Declarant's right to expand Water's Edge pursuant to this Section shall expire when all property described in Exhibit "B" has been subjected to this Declaration or 20 years after this Declaration is recorded, whichever is earlier. Until then, Declarant may transfer, assign, or otherwise permit this right to be exercised by any Person or Persons who are the developers of at least a portion of the real property described in Exhibits "A" or "B". Any such transfer, assignment or permission shall be memorialized in a written, recorded instrument executed by Declarant and the Person to whom it is assigned.

Nothing in this Declaration shall be construed to require Declarant or any successor to subject additional property to this Declaration or to develop any of the property described in Exhibit "B" in any manner whatsoever.

9.2 Expansion by the Association.

The Association may also expand Water's Edge to include additional property by recording a Supplemental Declaration describing the additional property and the intent to submit it to the provisions of this Declaration. Any such Supplemental Declaration proposed by the Association shall require the affirmative vote of persons entitled to cast more than 50% of the Class "A" votes in the Association represented at a meeting duly called for such purpose and the consent of the owner of the property. In addition, so long as Declarant owns property subject to this Declaration or which may become subject to this Declaration in accordance with Section 9.1, Declarant's consent shall be necessary. The Supplemental Declaration proposed by the Association shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the Association, by the owner of the property and by Declarant, if Declarant's consent is necessary.

9.3 Additional Covenants and Easements.

Declarant may subject any portion of Water's Edge to additional covenants and easements, including, but not limited to, covenants obligating the Association to maintain and insure such property and authorizing the Association to recover its costs through Service Area Assessments. Such additional covenants and easements may be set forth either in a Supplemental Declaration subjecting such property to this Declaration or in a separate

Supplemental Declaration referencing property previously subjected to this Declaration. If the property is owned by someone other than Declarant, then the consent of the Owner(s) shall be necessary and shall be evidenced by their execution of the Supplemental Declaration. Any such Supplemental Declaration may supplement, create exceptions to, or otherwise modify the terms of this Declaration as it applies to the subject property in order to reflect the different character and intended use of such property.

9.4 Effect of Filing Supplemental Declaration.

A Supplemental Declaration shall be effective upon recording unless otherwise specified in such Supplemental Declaration. On the effective date of the Supplemental Declaration, any additional property subjected to this Declaration shall be assigned voting rights in the Association and assessment liability in accordance with the provisions of this Declaration.

Article X Additional Rights Reserved to Declarant

10.1 Withdrawal of Property.

During the Development and Sale Period, Declarant reserves the right to amend this Declaration for the purpose of removing any portion of the real property which has not yet been improved with structures from the coverage of this Declaration, provided such withdrawal does not reduce the total number of Units then subject to the Declaration by more than 10%. Such amendment shall not require the consent of any Person other than the Owner(s) of the property to be withdrawn, if not the Declarant. If the property is Common Area, the Association shall consent to such withdrawal.

10.2 Right to Veto Changes in Standards.

During the Development and Sale Period, the Declarant shall have the right to veto any amendment to or modification of the Restrictions and Rules or Architectural Guidelines.

10.3 Development and Sales Activities.

During the Development and Sale Period:

(a) Declarant and Builders whom the Declarant so authorizes may construct and maintain upon portions of the Units or Common Area such facilities and activities as, in Declarant's sole opinion, may be reasonably required, convenient, or incidental to the construction or sale of Units, including, but not limited to, business offices and trailers, signs, model units, sales offices' parking areas and sales offices and trailers. Declarant and authorized Builders shall have easements for access to and use of such facilities at no charge. Such right shall specifically include the right of Declarant and its designees to use Common Area facilities for an information center and/or for administrative, sales and business offices at no charge.

(b) Declarant and its employees, agents and designees shall have a right of access and use and an easement over and upon all of the Common Area for the purpose of making, constructing and installing such improvements to the Common Area as it deems appropriate in its sole discretion.

10.4 Additional Plats and Covenants.

No Person shall record any plats, declaration of covenants, conditions and restrictions, or declaration of condominium or similar instrument affecting any portion of Water's Edge without Declarant's review and written consent. Any attempted recordation without such consent shall result in such instrument being void and of no force and effect unless subsequently approved by written consent signed and recorded by Declarant.

10.5 Right to Transfer or Assign Declarant Rights.

Any or all of Declarant's special rights and obligations set forth in this Declaration or the By-Laws may be transferred in whole or in part to other Persons; provided, the transfer shall not reduce an obligation nor enlarge a right beyond that which Declarant has under this Declaration or the By-Laws. No such transfer or assignment shall be effective unless it is in a written instrument signed by Declarant and the transferee and recorded. The foregoing sentence shall not preclude Declarant from permitting other Persons to exercise, on a one time or limited basis, any right reserved to Declarant in this Declaration where Declarant does not intend to transfer such right in its entirety, and in such case it shall not be necessary to record any written assignment unless necessary to evidence Declarant's consent to such exercise.

10.6 Exclusive Rights To Use Name of Development.

No Person other than Declarant and its authorized agents shall use the name "Water's Edge," any derivative of such names, or associated logos or depictions, in any electronic, printed or promotional media or material without Declarant's prior written consent. However, Owners may use the name "Water's Edge" in printed or promotional matter where such term is used solely to specify that particular property is located within Water's Edge. The Association shall also be entitled to use the words "Water's Edge" in its name.

10.7 Right to Notice of Design or Construction Claims.

No Person shall retain an expert for the purpose of inspecting the design or construction of any structures or improvements within Water's Edge in connection with or in anticipation of any potential or pending claim, demand or litigation involving such design or construction unless Declarant and any builder involved in the design or construction have been first notified in writing and given an opportunity to meet with the owner of the property to discuss the owner's concerns and conduct their own inspection pursuant to the rights reserved in Section 11.6.

10.8 Right of Convert Unit to Common Area or Roadway.

Declarant reserves the right to convert any Unit which it owns to Common Area or to public or private right-of-way, or to a combination of Common Area and right-of-way. Such right shall include, without limitation, a right to convert a Unit to right-of-way for the purpose of providing permanent access to property adjacent to the community, whether or not such property is made subject to this Declaration. Upon conveyance of any Unit by Declarant to the Association as Common Area, the Unit shall cease to be a Unit and shall thereafter be Common Area. Upon recordation by Declarant of a plat or other instrument establishing a public right-of-way over a Unit which Declarant owns, the Unit shall cease to be a Unit and shall thereafter be

treated in the same manner as any other property in the community that has been dedicated to the public.

10.9 Central Telecommunication, Receiving, and Distribution System.

To the extent permitted by applicable law, Declarant reserves for itself, any Declarant Affiliate, and their respective successors, and assignees, the exclusive and perpetual right (but not the obligation) and easement to operate or allow others to operate within Water's Edge, a central telecommunication (including cable television and security monitoring) receiving and/or distribution system, including conduits, wires, amplifiers, towers, antennae, and other related apparatus and equipment (the "**Community System**") as Declarant, in its discretion, deems appropriate. Such exclusive and perpetual right shall include, without limitation, Declarant's right to select and contract with companies licensed to provide (on an exclusive or non-exclusive basis as determined by Declarant) telecommunications and/or cable television service in the Gaston County, North Carolina area, and to charge or authorize such provider to charge individual users a reasonable fee not to exceed the maximum allowable charge for such service, as from time to time is defined by the laws, rules, and regulations of any relevant government authority, if applicable.

Declarant may also enter into and assign to the Association, or cause the Association to enter into, a bulk rate service agreement providing for access to any Community Systems for all Units as a Common Expense. If particular services or benefits are provided to particular Owners or Units at their request, the benefited Owner(s) shall pay the service provider directly for such services, or the Association may assess the charges as a General Assessment or Benefited Assessment and pay such charges to the provider on behalf of the Owners, as the Board deems appropriate.

Further, if any such contract for a Community System is in effect prior to commencement of construction of the dwelling on any Unit, the Architectural Guidelines may require the dwelling to be pre-wired to connect to such Community System.

10.10 Notices and Disclaimers as to Community Systems.

In recognition of the fact that interruptions in service provided by any Community System may occur from time to time, neither the Association, the Declarant, nor any Declarant Affiliate shall be held liable for any interruption in Community Systems services.

PART FIVE: PROPERTY RIGHTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

The nature of living in a planned community requires the creation of special property rights and provisions to address the needs and responsibilities of the Owners, Declarant, the Association, and others within or adjacent to the community.

Article XI Easements

11.1 Easements in Common Area.

Declarant grants to each Owner a nonexclusive right and easement of use, access, and enjoyment in and to the Common Area, subject to:

- (a) the Governing Documents and any other applicable covenants;
- (b) any restrictions or limitations contained in any deed conveying such property to the Association;
- (c) the Board's right to:
 - (i) adopt rules regulating use and enjoyment of the Common Area, including rules limiting the number of guests who may use the Common Area; and
 - (ii) suspend the right of an Owner to use recreational facilities within the Common Area pursuant to Section 7.5; and
 - (iii) dedicate or transfer all or any part of the Common Area, subject to Section 17.3; and
 - (iv) impose reasonable membership requirements and charge reasonable initiation fees, admission or other use fees for the use of any recreational facility situated upon the Common Area; and
 - (v) permit use of any recreational facilities situated on the Common Area by persons other than Owners, their families, lessees and guests upon payment of use fees established by the Board and designate other areas and facilities within the Area of Common Responsibility as open for the use and enjoyment of the public; and
 - (vi) mortgage, pledge, or hypothecate any or all of its real or personal property as security for money borrowed or debts incurred, subject to the approval requirements set forth in Section 17.3; and
- (d) The rights of certain Owners to the exclusive use of those portions of the Common Area designated "Limited Common Areas," as described in Article XII.

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

Board. An Owner who leases his or her Unit shall be deemed to have assigned all such rights to the lessee of such Unit for the period of the lease.

11.2 Easements of Encroachment.

(a) Declarant grants reciprocal appurtenant easements of encroachment, and for maintenance and use of any permitted encroachment, between each Unit and any adjacent Common Area or right-of-way and between adjacent Units due to the unintentional placement or settling or shifting of the improvements constructed, reconstructed, or altered thereon (in accordance with the terms of these restrictions) to a distance of not more than three feet, as measured from any point on the common boundary along a line perpendicular to such boundary. However, in no event shall an easement for encroachment exist if such encroachment occurred due to willful and knowing conduct on the part of, or with the knowledge and consent of, the Person claiming the benefit of such easement. Likewise, provided that such encroachment does not otherwise violate applicable laws, brick veneer wrapping the house foundation, roof overhangs, or similar architectural features which otherwise comply with the terms of this Declaration may encroach into any building setback area.

(b) Declarant grants reciprocal appurtenant easements of encroachment, and for maintenance and use of any permitted encroachment, between each Unit and any adjacent Common Area or right-of-way and between adjacent Units as reasonably necessary to install, maintain, repair and replace any fence constructed on or within one foot of the boundary line of any Unit.

11.3 Easements for Utilities, Etc.

(a) Installation and Maintenance. Declarant reserves for itself, during the Development and Sale Period, and grants to the Association and all utility providers designated by Declarant, perpetual non-exclusive easements throughout Water's Edge (but not through a dwelling) to the extent reasonably necessary for the purpose of:

(i) installing utilities and infrastructure to serve Water's Edge, cable and other systems for sending and receiving data and/or other electronic signals, security and similar systems, walkways, pathways and trails, drainage systems, street lights and signage on property which Declarant or any Builder owns or within public or private rights-of-way or easements reserved for such purpose on recorded plats or in other recorded documents; and

(ii) inspecting, maintaining, repairing and replacing the utilities, infrastructure and other improvements described in Section 11.3(a)(i); and

(iii) access to read utility meters.

Without limiting the foregoing, easements are hereby reserved within the front and rear-yards of each Unit for the purpose of installing utilities serving the dwelling located upon the Unit and other Units.

(b) Specific Easements. Declarant also reserves for itself the non-exclusive right and power to grant and record such specific easements as may be necessary, in the sole discretion of

Declarant, in connection with the orderly development of any property described in Exhibits "A" and "B". The Owner of any property to be burdened by any easement granted pursuant to this subsection (b) shall be given written notice in advance of the grant. The location of the easement shall be subject to the written approval of the Owner of the burdened property, which approval shall not unreasonably be withheld, delayed or conditioned. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such Owners consent shall not be required if such easement is located entirely within the front, back or sideyard set back and provided further that any improvements are installed underground.

(c) Minimal Interference. All work associated with the exercise of the easements described in subsections (a) and (b) of this Section shall be performed in such a manner as to minimize interference with the use and enjoyment of the property burdened by the easement. Upon completion of the work, the Person exercising the easement shall restore the property, to the extent reasonably possible, to its condition prior to the commencement of the work. The exercise of these easements shall not extend to permitting entry into the structures on any Unit, nor shall it unreasonably interfere with the use of any Unit and, except in an emergency, entry onto any Unit shall be made only after reasonable notice to the Owner or occupant.

11.4 Easements to Serve Additional Property.

Declarant hereby reserves for itself and its duly authorized agents, successors, assigns, and mortgagees, an easement over the Common Area for the purposes of enjoyment, use, access, and development of the property described in Exhibit "B", whether or not such property is made subject to this Declaration. This easement includes, but is not limited to, a right of ingress and egress over the Common Area for construction of roads and for connecting and installing utilities on such property.

Declarant agrees that it and its successors or assigns shall be responsible for any damage caused to the Common Area as a result of their respective actions in connection with development of such property. Declarant further agrees that if the easement is exercised for permanent access to such property and such property or any portion thereof benefiting from such easement is not made subject to this Declaration, Declarant, its successors or assigns shall enter into a reasonable agreement with the Association to share the cost of any maintenance which the Association provides to or along any roadway providing access to such Property.

11.5 Easements for Maintenance, Emergency and Enforcement.

Declarant grants to the Association easements over Water's Edge as necessary to enable the Association to fulfill its maintenance responsibilities under Section 7.2. The Association shall also have the right, but not the obligation, to enter upon any Unit for emergency, security, and safety reasons, to perform maintenance and to inspect for the purpose of ensuring compliance with and enforce the Governing Documents. Such right may be exercised by any member of the Board and its duly authorized agents and designees, and all 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.

11.6 Easement to Inspect and Right to Correct.

Declarant reserves for itself and others it may designate the right to inspect, monitor, test, redesign, and correct any structure, improvement, or condition which may exist on any portion of the property within Water's Edge, including Units, and a perpetual, nonexclusive easement of access throughout Water's Edge to the extent reasonably necessary to exercise such right. Except in an emergency, entry onto a Unit shall be only after reasonable notice to the Owner and no entry into a dwelling shall be permitted without the consent of the Owner. The person exercising this easement shall promptly repair, at such person's own expense, any damage resulting from such exercise.

11.7 Landscaping and Signage and Spoils Easements.

Declarant and its designees and the Association shall have perpetual, nonexclusive easements exercisable by their respective employees, agents, and contractors over areas within the rights-of-way of streets, parking areas and Common Area within Water's Edge and those portions of Units designated "Landscaping and Signage Easements" or "Spoils Easements" (or similar designations) on the recorded subdivision plats relating to Water's Edge for the purpose of installation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of lot bollards, neighborhood entrance monuments, signs, fences, lighting, irrigation systems and landscaping within the easement area. Nothing herein shall obligate Declarant or the Association to exercise such easements or to construct or install any of the foregoing within any right-of way, parking area, Common Area, Landscaping and Signage Easement or Spoils Easement. No permanent structures shall be permitted in such easement areas without the Association's prior written approval, other than those installed by Declarant or its designees.

No person shall interfere with the exercise of this easement by Declarant, its designees, or the Association, by removing, defacing, or otherwise vandalizing any signs (temporary or permanent) or other improvements placed within such easement area by Declarant, its designees, or the Association, or otherwise. The Declarant, its designees and the Association, respectively, may remove signs or other improvements which they have placed on the easement area.

11.8 Easements for Storm Water Collection, Retention and Irrigation Systems.

Declarant reserves for itself, the Association, and their successors, assigns, and designees, the nonexclusive right and easement to enter upon any portion of the property within the community, including those portions of the Units which are not improved with structures, to (a) install, operate, maintain, and replace pumps to supply irrigation water to the Area of Common Responsibility; (b) construct, maintain, and repair structures and equipment used for retaining water; and (c) maintain such areas in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard, provided, that no Person shall alter the natural drainage of stormwater from any Unit once the Builder's construction of initial improvements has been completed so as to unreasonably increase the drainage of stormwater onto adjacent property without the consent of Owner(s) of affected property, the Board, and the Declarant as long as it owns any property subject to the Declaration. Except in an emergency, entry onto a Unit shall be only after reasonable notice to the Owner and no entry into a dwelling shall be permitted without the consent of the Owner. The person exercising this easement shall promptly return any property damaged as a result of

such exercise to substantially the same condition as the property existed prior to the exercise of the easement.

11.9 Temporary Easements.

Declarant grants to Unit Owners a temporary non exclusive reciprocal easement over the yard of an adjacent Unit, including the right to temporarily remove fencing if reasonably required for the purpose of maintenance or improvement of adjacent Unit. Prior to exercising such easement rights, the Owner desiring to exercise such easement rights shall obtain prior written approval from the adjacent Unit Owner, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld, and shall be conditioned upon the exercising Owner providing a deposit with the Board to secure the obligation to rebuild if the exercise of the easement is likely to result in damage to the adjacent Unit Owner's property. Any disputes between Property Owners regarding the exercise of such reciprocal easements will be resolved by the Board.

11.10 Easements for the Use of Piers and Boatslips.

(a) Subject to and contingent on the approval of Duke and any other regulatory authority having jurisdiction thereon, Declarant shall have the exclusive right to construct Piers and Boatslips (including all improvements located thereon and pathways constructed by Declarant for access to and from the Piers and Boatslips) in the approximate locations as shown on the Master Plan or as otherwise shown on any Supplemental Declaration or other document which may be filed pursuant to the terms of this Declaration. Declarant shall have the right, in its discretion, to annex Piers and Boatslips into Water's Edge by Supplemental Declaration and to designate certain Boatslips as either Community or Exclusive Boatslips. Any Exclusive Boatslips (and the piers, pathways and related improvements associated therewith) constructed by Declarant shall be deemed to be Limited Common Area and shall be reserved for the benefit of the Owner(s) designated by Declarant and their respective families, guests and invitees. The Community Boatslips (and the piers, pathways and related improvements associated therewith) shall be deemed to be Common Area available for the common use and enjoyment by Declarant and all Owners and their respective families, guests and invitees. The use and enjoyment of all Piers and Boatslips shall be subject to the following:

(i) the Restrictions and Rules for use promulgated by Declarant and/or Association;

(ii) all laws, statutes, ordinances and regulations of all federal, state and local governmental bodies having jurisdiction thereon; and

(iii) rules and regulations for use established by Duke, including, without limitation, the terms of any lease pertaining to the Piers or Boatslips.

(b) The Declarant's and Owners' use of the Piers and Boatslips is to the following disclosures:

(i) the continued existence, purity or any other characteristic of the water in or the shoreline of the River;

(ii) the maintenance of any particular water level in or depth of the River at any time or in any season, including any changes in the depth resulting from siltation (or other natural causes, whether or not as a result of any dredging activity) or any other reason;

(iii) any conditions caused by Duke or any governmental entity having jurisdiction over the River or Water's Edge; and

(iv) action or inaction on the part of Duke or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") that could result in the termination of Pier permits or leases.

Declarant makes no representations or warranties as to its ability to obtain the necessary permits or approvals to construct the Piers or Boatslips. Accordingly, Owners shall not have or be entitled to assert any claim for damages or any other remedy against Declarant or its successors or assigns, relating to or arising from Declarant's inability to obtain the necessary permits or approvals to construct the Piers or Boatslips.

Article XII Limited Common Areas

12.1 Purpose.

Certain portions of the Common Area may be designated as Limited Common Area and reserved for the exclusive use or primary benefit of Owners and occupants of particular Units. By way of illustration and not limitation, Limited Common Areas may include entry features, recreational facilities, landscaped areas, Exclusive Boatslips and other portions of the Common Area primarily serving a limited number of Units. All costs associated with ownership, maintenance, repair, replacement, management, operation and insurance of a Limited Common Area shall be a Service Area Expense allocated among the Owners in the Service Area to which the Limited Common Area is assigned.

12.2 Designation.

Initially, any Limited Common Area shall be designated as such by Supplemental Declaration or in the deed conveying such area to the Association or on the subdivision plat relating to such Common Area; provided, however, any such assignment shall not preclude Declarant from later assigning use of the same Limited Common Area to additional Units, so long as Declarant has a right to subject additional property to this Declaration pursuant to Section 9.1.

Thereafter, a portion of the Common Area may be assigned as Limited Common Area upon approval of (a) the Board, (b) persons entitled to cast a majority of the total Class "A" votes in the Association, and (c) persons entitled to cast a majority of the Class "A" votes attributable to Units to which the Limited Common Area is proposed to be assigned or reassigned. During the Development and Sale Period, any such assignment or reassignment shall also require Declarant's written consent.

12.3 Use by Others.

Upon approval of a majority of Owners of Units to which any Limited Common Area is assigned, the Association may permit Owners of other Units to use all or a portion of such Limited Common Area upon payment of reasonable user fees, which fees shall be used to offset the Service Area Expenses attributable to such Limited Common Area.

Article XIII Party Walls and Other Shared Structures

13.1 General Rules of Law to Apply.

Each wall, fence, driveway or similar structure built as a part of the original construction on the Units that serves and/or separates any two adjoining Units shall constitute a party structure. To the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of this Section, the general rules of law regarding party walls and liability for property damage due to negligence or willful acts or omissions shall apply thereto. Any dispute arising concerning a party structure shall be handled in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV.

13.2 Maintenance; Damage and Destruction.

Except to the extent that responsibility for maintenance or repair is assigned to or assumed by the Association pursuant to the terms of this Declaration or any applicable Supplemental Declaration or written agreement, the Owners of the Units separated by a party structure shall each be responsible for maintaining that side of the party structure facing such Owner's Unit. To the extent that any necessary repair or replacement of a party structure affects both sides of the structure, it shall be the joint responsibility of the Owners of both Units and either Owner may perform the necessary maintenance or repair and, within 30 days after receipt of written evidence of the total cost incurred, the other Owner shall reimburse the Owner who has incurred such cost for one half of the reasonable cost he or she has incurred in performing such maintenance or repair.

Notwithstanding the above, if maintenance or repairs to a party structure are necessitated by the conduct of the Owners, occupants or guests of only one of the Units which share such party structure, then the Owner of such Unit shall be responsible for the necessary maintenance or repairs.

In the event that any Owner installs, constructs, or erects a fence on the common boundary line such Owner's Unit and an adjacent Unit, and the owner of the adjacent Unit thereafter attaches another section of fence to it or otherwise makes use of such fence for the purpose of enclosing all or a portion of the adjacent Unit, then such fence shall become a party fence for the purpose of each Owner's responsibility for contributing to the maintenance, repair, and replacement of such fence. However, nothing herein shall confer any ownership interest in or right to remove any such fence on the Owner of the adjacent Unit.

In the event that either Owner fails to provide necessary maintenance or repairs to a party structure within 10 days after the date of written notice from the Association advising of the need for such maintenance or repairs, the Association shall have the right to provide the necessary

maintenance or repairs and assess the costs incurred against the responsible Owner(s) and his (or their) Unit(s).

The right of any Owner to contribution from any other Owner under this Section shall be appurtenant to the land and shall pass to such Owner's successors-in-title.

PART SIX: RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY

The success of Water's Edge as a community in which people enjoy living and playing requires good faith efforts to resolve disputes amicably, attention to and understanding of relationships within the community and with our neighbors, and protection of the rights of others who have an interest in the community.

Article XIV Dispute Resolution and Limitation on Litigation

14.1 Agreement to Encourage Resolution of Disputes Without Litigation.

(a) Declarant, the Association and its officers, directors, and committee members, all Persons subject to this Declaration, and any Person not otherwise subject to this Declaration who agrees to submit to this Article (collectively, "**Bound Parties**"), agree that it is in the best interest of all concerned to encourage the amicable resolution of disputes involving Water's Edge without the emotional and financial costs of litigation. Accordingly, each Bound Party agrees not to file suit in any court with respect to a Claim described in subsection (b), unless and until it has first submitted such Claim to the alternative dispute resolution procedures set forth in Section 14.2 in a good faith effort to resolve such Claim.

(b) As used in this Article, the term "**Claim**" shall refer to any claim, grievance or dispute arising out of or relating to

(i) the interpretation, application, or enforcement of the Governing Documents; or

(ii) the rights, obligations, and duties of any Bound Party under the Governing Documents; or

(iii) the design or construction of improvements within Water's Edge, other than matters of aesthetic judgment under Article IV, which shall not be subject to review;

except that the following shall not be considered "Claims" unless all parties to the matter otherwise agree to submit the matter to the procedures set forth in Section 14.2:

(A) any suit by the Association to collect assessments or other amounts due from any Owner; and

(B) any suit by the Association to obtain a temporary restraining order (or emergency equitable relief) and such ancillary relief as the court may deem necessary in order to maintain the status quo and preserve the Association's ability to enforce the provisions of Part Two of this Declaration (relating to creation and maintenance of community standards); and

(C) any suit which does not include Declarant or the Association as a party, if such suit asserts a Claim which would constitute a cause of action independent of the Governing Documents; and

(D) any suit in which any indispensable party is not a Bound Party; and

(E) any suit as to which any applicable statute of limitations would expire within 180 days of giving the Notice required by Section 14.2(a), unless the party or parties against whom the Claim is made agree to toll the statute of limitations as to such Claim for such period as may reasonably be necessary to comply with this Article.

14.2 Dispute Resolution Procedures.

(a) Notice. The Bound Party asserting a Claim (“**Claimant**”) against another Bound Party (“**Respondent**”) shall give written notice to each Respondent and to the Board stating plainly and concisely:

(i) the nature of the Claim, including the Persons involved and the Respondent’s role in the Claim; and

(ii) the legal basis of the Claim (i.e., the specific authority out of which the Claim arises); and

(iii) the Claimant’s proposed resolution or remedy; and

(iv) the Claimant’s desire to meet with the Respondent to discuss in good faith ways to resolve the Claim.

(b) Negotiation. The Claimant and Respondent shall make every reasonable effort to meet in person and confer for the purpose of resolving the Claim by good faith negotiation. If requested in writing, accompanied by a copy of the Notice, the Board may appoint a representative to assist the parties in negotiating a resolution of the Claim..

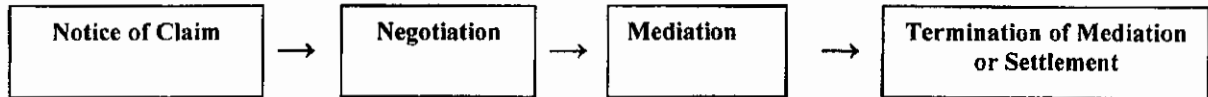
(c) Mediation. If the parties have not resolved the Claim through negotiation within 30 days of the date of the notice described in Section 14.2(a) (or within such other period as the parties may agree upon), the Claimant shall have 30 additional days to submit the Claim to mediation with an entity designated by the Association (if the Association is not a party to the Claim) or to an independent agency providing dispute resolution services in the Charlotte, North Carolina metropolitan area.

If the Claimant does not submit the Claim to mediation within such time, or does not appear for the mediation when scheduled, the Claimant shall be deemed to have waived the Claim, and the Respondent shall be relieved of any and all liability to the Claimant (but not third parties) on account of such Claim.

If the Parties do not settle the Claim within 30 days after submission of the matter to mediation, or within such time as determined reasonable by the mediator, the mediator shall issue a notice of termination of the mediation proceedings indicating that the parties are at an impasse and the date that mediation was terminated. The Claimant shall thereafter be entitled to file suit or to initiate administrative proceedings on the Claim, as appropriate.

Each Party shall bear its own costs of the mediation, including attorneys fees, and each Party shall share equally all fees charged by the mediator.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Process



(d) **Settlement.** Any settlement of the Claim through negotiation or mediation shall be documented in writing and signed by the parties. If any party thereafter fails to abide by the terms of such agreement, then any other party may file suit or initiate administrative proceedings to enforce such agreement without the need to again comply with the procedures set forth in this Section. In such event, the party taking action to enforce the agreement or award shall, upon prevailing, be entitled to recover from the non-complying party (or if more than one noncomplying party, from all such parties in equal proportions) all costs incurred in enforcing such agreement or award, including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and court costs.

14.3 Initiation of Litigation by Association.

In addition to compliance with the foregoing alternative dispute resolution procedures, if applicable, the Association shall not initiate any judicial or administrative proceeding unless first approved by a vote of persons entitled to cast 75% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association, except that no such approval shall be required for actions or proceedings:

- (a) initiated during the Class "B" Control Period; or
- (b) initiated to enforce the provisions of the Governing Documents, including collection of assessments and foreclosure of liens; or
- (c) initiated to challenge ad valorem taxation or condemnation proceedings; or
- (d) initiated against any contractor, vendor, or supplier of goods or services arising out of a contract for services or supplies; or
- (e) to defend claims filed against the Association or to assert counterclaims in proceedings instituted against it.

This Section shall not be amended unless such amendment is approved by the same percentage of votes necessary to institute proceedings.

Article XV Mortgagee Provisions

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

15.1 Notices of Action.

An institutional holder, insurer, or guarantor of a first Mortgage which provides a written request to the Association (such request to state the name and address of such holder, insurer, or guarantor and the street address of the Unit to which its Mortgage relates (thereby becoming an “**Eligible Mortgage Holder**”), will be entitled to timely written notice of:

(a) Any condemnation loss or any casualty loss which affects a material portion of Water’s Edge or which affects any Unit on which there is an Eligible Mortgage held, insured, or guaranteed by such Eligible Mortgage Holder; or

(b) Any delinquency in the payment of assessments or charges owed for a Unit subject to the Eligible Mortgage of such Eligible Mortgage Holder, where such delinquency has continued for a period of 60 days, or any other violation of the Governing Documents relating to such Unit or the Owner or occupant which is not cured within 60 days; or

(c) Any lapse, cancellation, or material modification of any insurance policy maintained by the Association; or

(d) Any proposed action which would require the consent of a specified percentage of Eligible Mortgage Holders,

15.2 No Priority.

No provision of this Declaration or the By-Laws gives or shall be construed as giving any Owner or other party priority over any rights of the first Mortgagee of any Unit in the case of distribution to such Owner of insurance proceeds or condemnation awards for losses to or a taking of the Common Area.

15.3 Notice to Association.

Upon request, each Owner shall be obligated to furnish to the Association the name and address of the holder of any Mortgage encumbering such Owner’s Unit.

PART SEVEN: CHANGES IN THE COMMUNITY

Communities such as Water's Edge are dynamic and need the ability to monitor and adjust circumstances, technology, needs and desires, and applicable laws change over time.

Article XVI Changes in Ownership of Units

16.1 Notice of Transfer.

Any Owner (excluding a Builder) desiring to sell or otherwise transfer title to his or her Unit shall give the Board at least seven days' prior written notice of the name and address of the purchaser or transferee, the date of such transfer of title, and such other information as the Board may reasonably require. The Person transferring title shall continue to be jointly and severally responsible with the Person accepting title for all obligations of the Owner, including assessment obligations, until the date upon which the Board receives such notice, notwithstanding the transfer of title.

16.2 Administrative Transfer Fee.

The Association may charge an "**Administrative Transfer Fee**" on transfer of title to each Unit (excluding any transfer of a Unit to a Builder) to cover the administrative expenses associated with updating the Association's records. Any such Administrative Transfer Fee shall be reasonably determined by the Board to cover its costs, including, but not limited to, any fees charged for updating records by a management company retained by the Association.

Article XVII Changes In Common Area

17.1 Condemnation.

If any part of the Common Area shall be taken by any authority having the power of condemnation or eminent domain, each Owner shall be entitled to written notice of such taking or conveyance prior to disbursement of any condemnation award. Any condemnation award shall be payable to the Association and shall be disbursed as follows:

If the taking or conveyance involves a portion of the Common Area on which improvements have been constructed, the Association shall restore or replace such improvements on the remaining land included in the Common Area to the extent available, unless within 60 days after such taking Declarant, during the Development and Sale Period, and Members entitled to cast at least 75% of the total Class "A" vote of the Association shall otherwise agree. Any such construction shall be in accordance with plans approved by the Board. The provisions of Section 7.4(c) regarding funds for restoring improvements shall apply.

If the taking or conveyance does not involve any improvements on the Common Area, or if a decision is made not to repair or restore, or if net funds remain after any such restoration or replacement is complete, then such award or net funds shall be treated in the same manner as if proceeds from the sale of Common Area pursuant to Section 17.3.

17.2 Partition.

Except as permitted in this Declaration, the Common Area shall remain undivided, and no Person shall bring any action seeking the partition of any portion of the Common Area without the written consent of all Owners and Mortgagees. This Section shall not prohibit the Board from acquiring and disposing of tangible personal property nor from acquiring and disposing of real property which may or may not be subject to this Declaration, subject to such approval as may be required under Section 17.3.

17.3 Mortgaging, Conveyance or Dedication of Common Area.

The Association may dedicate portions of the Common Area to Gaston County, North Carolina, or to any other local, state, or federal governmental or quasi-governmental entity, or may subject Common Area to a security interest, or may transfer or convey Common Area as follows:

(a) if Common Area other than Limited Common Area, upon the written direction of Members entitled to cast at least 80% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association and the Declarant during the Development and Sale Period; or

(b) if Limited Common Area, upon written agreement of all Owners of Units to which the Limited Common Area is assigned.

The proceeds from the sale or financing of Common Area other than Limited Common Area shall be an asset of the Association to be used as the Board determines. The proceeds from the sale or financing of Limited Common Area shall be disbursed as provided by the agreement authorizing such sale or security interest.

No sale or encumbrance of Common Area may deprive any Unit of rights of access or support.

Article XVIII Amendment of Declaration

18.1 By Declarant.

In addition to specific amendment rights granted elsewhere in this Declaration, until termination of the Development and Sale Period, Declarant may unilaterally amend this Declaration for the purpose of (a) bringing any provision into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule, regulation, or judicial determination; (b) enabling any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage on the Units; (c) enabling any institutional or governmental lender, purchaser, insurer or guarantor of mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to make, purchase, insure or guarantee mortgage loans on the Units; (d) satisfying the requirements of any local, state or federal governmental agency; (e) correcting clerical errors; or (f) making other changes determined to be appropriate by Declarant in its reasonable discretion.

18.2 By Members.

Except as otherwise specifically provided above and elsewhere in this Declaration, this Declaration may be amended only by the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination thereof, of persons entitled to cast at least 67% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association, including at least 67% of the Class "A" votes held by Members other than Declarant, and during the Development and Sale Period, the Declarant's consent.

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

18.3 Validity and Effective Date.

No amendment may remove, revoke, or modify any right or privilege of Declarant or the Class "B" Member without the written consent of Declarant or the Class "B" Member, respectively (or the assignee of such right or privilege).

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

Any amendment shall become effective upon recording, unless a later effective date is specified in the amendment. Any procedural challenge to an amendment must be made within one year of its recordation or such amendment shall be presumed to have been validly adopted. In no event shall a change of conditions or circumstances operate to amend any provisions of this Declaration.

Amendments shall be indexed in the Grantee index under the names "Water's Edge" and "Water's Edge at Mt. Holly Homeowners Association, Inc." and in the Grantor index under the name "Faison-Gaston Gateway, LLC".

18.4 Exhibits.

Exhibits "A" and "B" attached to this Declaration are incorporated by this reference and amendment of such exhibits shall be governed by this Article. All other exhibits are attached for informational purposes and may be amended as provided therein or in the provisions of this Declaration that refer to such exhibits.

Article XIX Termination of Declaration

This Declaration may be terminated only upon recording a termination agreement signed by the then Owners of at least 80% of the Units. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to permit termination of any easement created in this Declaration without the consent of the holder of such easement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Declarant has executed this Declaration on the date and year first written above.

DECLARANT: FAISON-GASTON GATEWAY LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company

By: *Neil B. Kapadia*
Name: Neil B. Kapadia
Its: Vice President

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG

I, *Diane Hunter*, a Notary Public of *Mecklenburg* County and State of *North Carolina*, do hereby certify that Neil B. Kapadia ("Signatory"), personally came before me this day and acknowledged that he is Vice President of FAISON-GASTON GATEWAY LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company, and that he, as Vice President, being authorized to do so, executed the foregoing instrument on behalf of the limited liability company.

I certify that the Signatory personally appeared before me this day, and
(check one of the following)

(I have personal knowledge of the identity of the Signatory); or
 (I have seen satisfactory evidence of the Signatory's identity, by a current state or federal identification with the Signatory's photograph in the form of:
(check one of the following)
 a driver's license or
 in the form of _____); or
 (a credible witness has sworn to the identity of the Signatory).

The Signatory acknowledged to me that he voluntarily signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated therein and in the capacity indicated.

Witness my hand and official stamp or seal this *15th* day of *June*, 2007.

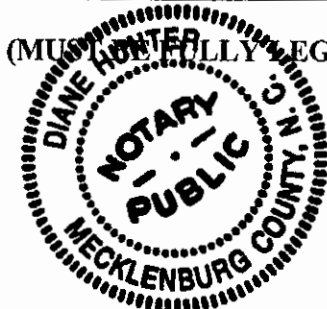
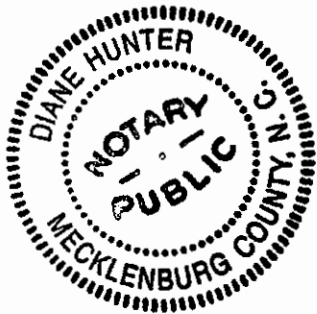
Diane Hunter

Notary Public

Print Name: *Diane Hunter*
[Note: Notary Public must sign exactly as on notary seal]

My Commission Expires: *10-25-2010*

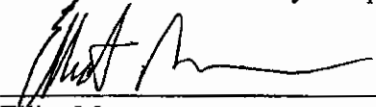
[NOTARY SEAL] (MUST BE FULLY LEGIBLE)



Standard Pacific of the Carolinas, LLC joins in the execution of this Declaration solely to evidence its consent and subject the following described real property to the terms and conditions of this Declaration as the Owner of Lots 5, 6, 7 and 8 (comprising Building Pad #23); Lots 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 (comprising Building Pad #24); Lots 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 40 (comprising Building Pad #2); and Lots 51, 52, 53, 54, 55 and 56 (comprising Building Pad #30), all as shown on the Plat described on Exhibit A hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Declaration on the date and year first written above.

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

By: 
Name: Elliot Mann
Its: President

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG

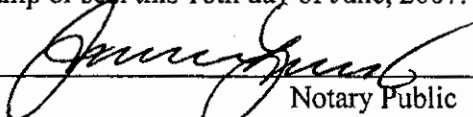
I, John R. Loberg, a Notary Public of Mecklenburg County and State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that Elliot Mann ("**Signatory**"), personally came before me this day and acknowledged that he is President of **STANDARD PACIFIC OF THE CAROLINAS, LLC**, a Delaware limited liability company, and that he, as President, being authorized to do so, executed the foregoing instrument on behalf of the limited liability company.

I certify that the Signatory personally appeared before me this day, and
(check one of the following)

- X (I have personal knowledge of the identity of the Signatory); or
 (I have seen satisfactory evidence of the Signatory's identity, by a current state or federal identification with the Signatory's photograph in the form of:
(check one of the following)
 a driver's license or
 in the form of _____); or
 (a credible witness has sworn to the identity of the Signatory).

The Signatory acknowledged to me that he voluntarily signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated therein and in the capacity indicated.

Witness my hand and official stamp or seal this 18th day of June, 2007.

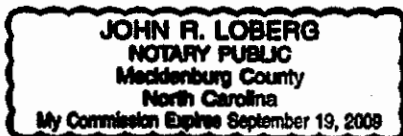

Notary Public

Print Name: John R. Loberg

[Note: Notary Public must sign exactly as on notary seal]

My Commission Expires: September 19, 2009

☞ [NOTARY SEAL] (MUST BE FULLY LEGIBLE)



CONSENT OF MORTGAGEE

Regions Bank, a state banking corporation, the holder of deed of trust recorded in the Office of the Gaston County, North Carolina Register of Deeds, in Book 4185, Page 284, and P. Perry Hedrick, in his capacity as trustee under the aforesaid deed of trust, hereby consent to the execution and delivery of the foregoing Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Water's Edge (the "**Declaration**"), and to the filing thereof, in the Office of the Gaston County, North Carolina Register of Deeds, and further subject and subordinate the above-described deed of trust to the provisions of the foregoing Declaration.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, by its authorized officer, and the undersigned beneficiary and trustee have caused this Consent to be executed this 18th day of June, 2007.

[Signature Page Follows]

REGIONS BANK,
a state banking corporation

By: *Tina B. Wiggins*
Name: Tina B. Wiggins
Title: Vice President

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG

I, Christina Few, a Notary Public of Mecklenburg County and State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that Tina B. Wiggins ("**Signatory**"), personally came before me this day and acknowledged that she is Vice President of **REGIONS BANK**, a state banking corporation, and that she, as Vice President, being authorized to do so, executed the foregoing instrument on behalf of the corporation.

I certify that the Signatory personally appeared before me this day, and

(check one of the following)

X (I have personal knowledge of the identity of the Signatory); or
 (I have seen satisfactory evidence of the Signatory's identity, by a current state or federal identification with the Signatory's photograph in the form of:

(check one of the following)

a driver's license or
 in the form of _____); or
 (a credible witness has sworn to the identity of the Signatory).

The Signatory acknowledged to me that he voluntarily signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated therein and in the capacity indicated.

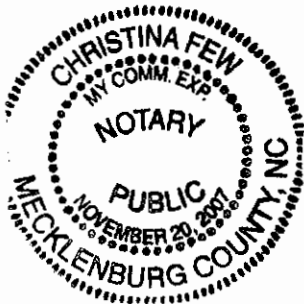
Witness my hand and official stamp or seal this 18th day of June, 2007.

Christina Few
Notary Public

Print Name: Christina Few
[Note: Notary Public must sign exactly as on notary seal]

My Commission Expires: November 20, 2007

☞ [NOTARY SEAL] (MUST BE FULLY LEGIBLE)



P. Perry Hedrick
P. Perry Hedrick, Trustee

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY MECKLENBURG

I, Christina Few, a Notary Public of Mecklenburg County and State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that P. Perry Hedrick ("Signatory"), personally came before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

I certify that the Signatory personally appeared before me this day, and
(check one of the following)

- (I have personal knowledge of the identity of the Signatory); or
 (I have seen satisfactory evidence of the Signatory's identity, by a current state or federal identification with the Signatory's photograph in the form of:
(check one of the following)
 a driver's license or
 in the form of _____); or
 (a credible witness has sworn to the identity of the Signatory).

The Signatory acknowledged to me that he voluntarily signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated therein and in the capacity indicated.

Witness my hand and official stamp or seal this 18th day of June, 2007.

Christina Few
Notary Public

Print Name: Christina Few
[Note: Notary Public must sign exactly as on notary seal]

My Commission Expires: November 20, 2007

☞ [NOTARY SEAL] (MUST BE FULLY LEGIBLE)

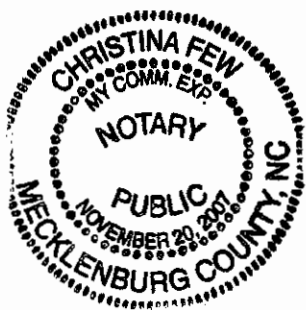


EXHIBIT "A"

Land Initially Submitted

All of those tracts or parcels of land lying and being in Gaston County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

The following property shown on the plat entitled "Subdivision Plat Water's Edge – Map 1" recorded in Map Book 73, Page 55 in the Office of the Gaston County Register of Deeds, which plat is incorporated herein by this reference ("Plat"): (i) the 8.1716 acres of "Common Open Space" (which shall constitute "Common Area" as defined in this Declaration), including all streets and parking areas; and (ii) the 1.8083 acres containing Building Pads depicted as "BLDG. #1", "BLDG. #2", "BLDG #22", "BLDG #23", "BLDG #24", "BLDG #25", "BLDG #26", "BLDG #27", "BLDG #28", "BLDG #30", "BLDG #31", all as shown on the Plat, excluding, however, the 0.9176 acre tract shown as "Reserved by Faison-Gaston Gateway, LLC", as shown on the Plat' and

The following property shown on the plat entitled "Subdivision Plat Water's Edge – Map 2" recorded in Map Book 74, Page 38 in the Office of the Gaston County Register of Deeds, which plat is incorporated herein by this reference ("Second Plat"): (i) the`

6.708 acres of "Common Open Space" (which shall constitute "Common Area" as defined in this Declaration), including all streets and parking areas; and (ii) the 2.4489 acres containing Building Pads depicted as "BLDG. #3", "BLDG. #4", "BLDG #20", "BLDG #21", "BLDG #32", "BLDG #33", "BLDG #34", "BLDG #35", "BLDG #36", "BLDG #37", "BLDG #38", "BLDG #39", "BLDG #40", "BLDG #41" and "BLDG #42" all as shown on the Second Plat.

EXHIBIT "B"

Land Subject to Annexation

LYING AND BEING in Town of Mount Holly, Gaston County, North Carolina, and more particularly described as follows:

To locate the BEGINNING commence at North Carolina Grid System Monument "WOODROW" having North Carolina Grid System (North American Datum 1983) Coordinates of N: 167,689.217 M, E: 423,749.645 M, run thence N. 35-37-03 E. 7929.50 feet (grid) and 7930.77 feet (ground) to an existing iron pin/pipe having North Carolina Grid System Coordinates of N: 169,653.978 M, E: 425,157.186 M and thence N. 74-40-24 E. 21.33 feet to a found existing iron rebar/rod bent on the eastern margin of the one hundred fifty foot (150') wide public right-of-way of N.C. Highway 273 a.k.a. Mount Holly Road (formerly Beatty Drive) and in the southern boundary of the land conveyed to Maya Lodging, L.L.C. by instruments recorded in Deed Book 2460, Page 475 and in Deed Book 2695, Pages 381 and 385, Gaston County Public Registry, and running thence from the point and place of BEGINNING with the southern boundary of the Maya Lodging, L.L.C. land (now or formerly) N. 74-40-24 E. 178.51 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; thence N. 74-41-39 E. 900.80 feet to an existing iron pin/pipe bent; thence N. 66-47-51 E. 364.44 feet to an found existing iron pin/pipe bent in the southern boundary of the land conveyed to Ralph Leonard Michael and Hazel Michael by instrument recorded in Deed Book 3877, Page 362, Gaston County Public Registry; thence with the southern and eastern boundaries of the Michael land (now or formerly) two (2) courses and distances as follows: (1) N. 66-47-51 E. 500.60 feet to an axle and (2) N. 42-45-34 E. 806.30 feet to a 1" found existing iron rebar/rod; thence N. 42-45-34 E. 565.95 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod with cap on the western boundary of the Catawba River; thence with the western boundary of the Catawba River thirty three (33) courses and distances as follows: (1) S. 08-23-54 E. 56.71 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (2) S. 41-36-55 E. 76.66 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod with cap; (3) S. 25-53-15 W. 50.72 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod with cap; (4) S. 20-33-50 E. 19.24 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod with cap; (5) N. 41-24-09 E. 69.56 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (6) N. 66-51-03 E. 40.78 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod with cap; (7) S. 82-50-46 E. 76.85 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod with cap; (8) S. 64-38-02 E. 64.23 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (9) S. 54-02-19 E. 68.56 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (10) S. 59-33-54 E. 72.14 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (11) S. 63-25-17 E. 56.90 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (12) S. 47-28-36 E. 51.99 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (13) S. 63-38-52 E. 46.42 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (14) S. 33-51-53 E. 53.93 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (15) S. 51-45-48 E. 54.35 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (16) S. 73-29-08 E. 85.64 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (17) S. 14-44-49 E. 66.39 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (18) S. 13-10-16 E. 43.53 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (19) S. 08-25-42 E. 34.12 feet to a set #4 iron rebar rod; (20) S. 05-36-08 E. 101.47 feet to a set #4 iron rebar rod; (21) S. 08-34-11 E. 129.20 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (22) S. 02-50-16 W. 63.67 feet to a set #4 iron rebar rod; (23) S. 02-43-11 W. 288.32 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (24) S. 10-21-09 W. 62.34 feet to a found concrete monument; (25) S. 48-52-29 W. 17.07 feet to a set #4 iron rebar rod; (26) N. 77-12-48 W. 222.76 feet to a set #4 iron rebar rod; (27) S. 78-34-27 W. 100.23 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (28) S. 84-34-10 W. 159.17 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (29) N. 51-24-41 W. 29.15 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (30) S. 68-12-39 W. 68.28 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (31) S. 68-55-02 W. 69.76 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (32) S. 54-15-38 W.

102.38 feet to a set #4 iron rebar rod; and (33) S. 12-38-55 E. 34.90 feet to a found concrete monument; thence S. 85-30-42 W. 20.54 feet to point on the western boundary of the land conveyed to the Gaston County YMCA by instrument recorded in Deed Book 2841, Page 904, Gaston County Public Registry, and as shown on maps recorded in Map Book 49, Pages 15, 16, and 17, Gaston County Public Registry; thence with the western and northern boundaries of the Gaston County YMCA land (now or formerly) two (2) courses and distances as follows: (1) N. 04-21-07 W. 251.73 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod and (2) S. 85-50-02 W. 739.46 feet to a p.k. nail on the northern margin of the right-of-way of Robert Lee Stowe, Jr. Boulevard; thence with the northern margin of the right-of-way of Robert Lee Stowe, Jr. Boulevard thirteen (13) courses and distances as follows: (1) S. 85-49-36 W. 60.00 feet to a p.k. nail; (2) S. 04-10-24 E. 9.97 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (3) S. 40-46-36 W. 14.17 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (4) S. 85-49-36 W. 341.33 feet to an existing iron rebar/rod; (5) with the arc of a circular curve to the left, having a radius of 260.00, an arc length of 86.34 feet, and subtended by a chord bearing and distance of S. 76-18-47 W. 85.95 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (6) S. 66-47-57 W. 130.14 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (7) S. 66-47-57 W. 302.03 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (8) with the arc of a circular curve to the right, having a radius of 570.00, an arc length of 78.55 feet, and subtended by a chord bearing and distance of S. 70-44-48 W. 78.48 feet to a set #4 iron rebar rod; (9) S. 74-41-40 W. 389.09 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (10) with the arc of a circular curve to the left, having a radius of 590.00, an arc length of 18.75 feet, and subtended by a chord bearing and distance of S. 73-47-03 W. 18.75 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (11) S. 72-52-26 W. 537.53 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; (12) with the arc of a circular curve to the right, having a radius of 470.00, an arc length of 73.05 feet, and subtended by a chord bearing and distance of S. 77-19-35 W. 72.97 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod; and (13) S. 81-46-44 W. 28.94 feet to a set new #4 iron rebar rod on the eastern margin of the right-of-way of N.C. Highway 273 a.k.a. Mount Holly Road (formerly Beatty Drive); and thence with the eastern margin of the right-of-way of N.C. Highway 273 a.k.a. Mount Holly Road (formerly Beatty Drive) N. 07-21-21 W. 35.73 feet to the point and place of BEGINNING, as shown on prepared by Mark E. Funkhouser, North Carolina Professional Surveyor L-3602 of GNA Design Associates, Inc., entitled "LOT 4 SURVEY OF GASTON GATEWAY", drawing dated May 14, 2004, last revised August 31, 2005, and certified as of December 8, 2005, Project Number 58891, Project Cross Reference 42091 and 55991, reference to said survey being made in aid of description.

TOGETHER WITH any property that is contiguous to or located within one hundred feet of any portion of the property described on Exhibits "A" or "B" hereto, including without limitation, property located within the Catawba River, including any easements and/or leasehold rights related thereto.

LESS AND EXCEPT the property described in Exhibit A hereto.

EXHIBIT "C"

Initial Restrictions and Rules

The following restrictions shall apply to all of Water's Edge until such time as they are amended, modified, repealed or limited pursuant to Article III of the Declaration.

1. **General.** The properties submitted to this Declaration shall be used only for residential, recreational, and related purposes consistent with this Declaration and any Supplemental Declaration. Such purposes may include, without limitation, an information center and/or a sales office for any real estate broker or builder retained by Declarant to assist in the sale of property described in Exhibits "A" or "B", offices for any property manager retained by the Association, business offices for Declarant and the Association, and public facilities.

2. **Restricted Activities.** The following activities are prohibited within Water's Edge unless expressly authorized by, and then subject to such conditions as may be imposed by, the Board of Directors:

(a) Parking or storing any vehicles on any sidewalk or on any part of a Unit or Common Area other than in those areas improved for that purpose (i.e., an enclosed garage, driveway, the street or common parking lot). If a Unit is improved with an enclosed garage, then the Owner of that Unit may only park vehicles in the driveway or the enclosed garage of that Unit (not in any common parking lot or the street). If a Unit is not improved with an enclosed garage, then the Owner of that Unit may park up to two (2) vehicles in designated parking spaces located in the common parking lot in front of or near that Owner's Unit provided that the vehicles are not unlicensed, under repair, inoperable or wrecked. All vehicular parking must not obstruct or interfere with the ingress or egress of others. Owners may not reserve spaces in a common parking lot. The Association may designate parking spaces for the use of Owners in general or may reserve spaces for particular Units. Guests of Owners may park in the common parking lots on a temporary and infrequent basis such that the guests do not overburden the available parking. Guests are subject to the same penalties, including towing, as Owners if any of the parking restrictions are violated. All parking and storage shall otherwise comply with all governmental and private rules and regulations, including regulations regarding nuisance and on and off-street parking. The Association reserves the right to impose sanctions on any Owner for any violation of these parking restrictions, including, without limitation, towing an Owner's or its guest's vehicle at that Owner's expense.

(b) Parking of commercial vehicles or equipment, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, golf carts, boats and other watercraft, trailers, stored vehicles or inoperable vehicles in places other than enclosed garages except temporarily during loading and unloading; provided, construction, service and delivery vehicles shall be exempt from this provision for such period of time as is reasonably necessary to provide service or to make a delivery to a Unit or the Common Area. For purposes of this provision, "commercial vehicles" shall be defined as trucks or vans with commercial writing on their exteriors or vehicles primarily used or designed for a commercial purpose, and vehicles with advertising signage attached or displayed on such vehicle's exterior, but shall not include passenger cars with identifying decals or painted lettering

not exceeding a total area of one square foot in size or official vehicles owned by governmental or quasi-governmental bodies; and

(c) Raising, breeding or keeping animals, livestock, or poultry of any kind, except that a reasonable number of dogs, cats, or other usual and common household pets may be permitted in a Unit; however, those pets which are permitted to roam free, or, in the sole discretion of the Board, make objectionable noise (including barking dogs), endanger the health or safety of, or constitute a nuisance or inconvenience to the occupants of other Units shall be removed upon request of the Board. If the pet owner fails to honor such request, the Board may remove the pet. Dogs shall be kept on a leash or otherwise confined in a manner acceptable to the Board whenever outside the dwelling. Pets shall be registered, licensed and inoculated as required by law; and

(d) Any activity which emits foul or obnoxious odors outside the Unit or creates an unreasonable level of noise or other conditions which tend, in the Board's judgment, to unreasonably disturb the peace or threaten the safety of the occupants of other Units (this paragraph shall not preclude normal and customary use of power tools, lawn mowers, and other yard maintenance equipment); and

(e) Any activity which violates local, state or federal laws or regulations; however, the Board shall have no obligation to take enforcement action in the event of a violation; and

(f) Pursuit of hobbies or other activities which tend to cause an unclean, unhealthy or untidy condition to exist outside of enclosed structures on the Unit; and

(g) Any noxious or offensive activity which in the reasonable determination of the Board tends to cause embarrassment, discomfort, annoyance, or nuisance to persons using the Common Area or to the occupants of other Units; and

(h) Outside burning of trash, leaves, debris or other materials, except during the normal course of constructing a dwelling on a Unit; and

(i) Use or discharge of any radio, loudspeaker, horn, whistle, bell, or other sound device so as to be audible to occupants of other Units, except alarm devices used exclusively for security purposes; and

(j) Use and discharge of firecrackers and other fireworks; and

(k) Dumping grass clippings, leaves or other debris, petroleum products, fertilizers, or other potentially hazardous or toxic substances in any drainage ditch, stream, pond, or lake, or elsewhere within Water's Edge, except that fertilizers may be applied to landscaping on Units provided care is taken to minimize runoff; and

(l) Accumulation of rubbish, trash, or garbage except between regular garbage pick ups, and then only in approved containers which must be stored in an enclosed garage except on the day garbage is collected. Garbage containers may be placed on the driveway adjacent to the street (or in such other location as may be required by the applicable public or private garbage

service performing garbage pick-up) no earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the night prior to garbage collection day and must be returned to the garage prior to the end of garbage collection day; and

(m) Obstruction or rechanneling drainage flows after location and installation of drainage swales, storm sewers, or storm drains, except that Declarant and the Association shall have such right; provided, the exercise of such right shall not materially diminish the value of or unreasonably interfere with the use of any Unit without the Owner's consent; and

(n) Subdivision of a Unit into two or more Units, or changing the boundary lines of any Unit after a subdivision plat including such Unit has been approved and recorded, except that Declarant and Builders, with Declarant's written consent, shall be permitted to subdivide or replat Units which they own; and

(o) Conversion of any garage to finished space for use as an apartment or other integral part of the living area on any Unit without prior approval pursuant to Article IV, or use of any garage for storage or other purposes which preclude its use for parking of that number of vehicles for which it was originally designed; and

(p) Use of any Unit for operation of a timesharing, fraction-sharing, or similar program whereby the right to exclusive use of the Unit rotates among participants in the program on a fixed or floating time schedule over a period of years, except that Declarant and its assigns may operate such a program with respect to Units which it owns; and

(q) Discharge of firearms; provided, the Board shall have no obligation to take action to prevent or stop such discharge; and

(r) On-site storage of gasoline, heating, or other fuels, except that a reasonable amount of fuel may be stored on each Unit for emergency purposes and operation of lawn mowers and similar tools or equipment, and the Association shall be permitted to store fuel for operation of maintenance vehicles, generators, and similar equipment. This provision shall not apply to any underground fuel tank authorized pursuant to Article IV; and

(s) Any yard sale, garage sale, moving sale, rummage sale, or similar activity, except on such dates as the Board may designate for such activities to be conducted on a community-wide basis; and

(t) Any business, trade, or similar activity, except that an Owner or occupant residing in a Unit may conduct business activities within the Unit so long as: (i) the existence or operation of the business activity is not apparent or detectable by sight, sound, or smell from outside the Unit; (ii) the business activity conforms to all zoning requirements for Water's Edge; (iii) the business activity does not involve door-to-door solicitation of residents of Water's Edge; (iv) the business activity does not, in the Board's reasonable judgment, generate a level of vehicular or pedestrian traffic or a number of vehicles being parked in Water's Edge which is noticeably greater than that which is typical of Units in which no business activity is being conducted; and (v) the business activity is consistent with the residential character of Water's Edge and does not constitute a nuisance, or a hazardous or offensive use, or threaten the security or safety of other residents of Water's Edge as may be determined in the sole discretion of the Board.

The terms “**business**” and “**trade**,” as used in this provision, shall be construed to have their ordinary, generally accepted meanings and shall include, without limitation, any occupation, work, or activity undertaken on an ongoing basis which involves the provision of goods or services to persons other than the provider’s family and for which the provider receives a fee, compensation, or other form of consideration, regardless of whether: (i) such activity is engaged in full or part-time, (ii) such activity is intended to or does generate a profit, or (iii) a license is required.

Leasing of a Unit shall not be considered a business or trade within the meaning of this subsection. This subsection shall not apply to any activity conducted by Declarant or a Builder approved by Declarant with respect to its development and sale of Water’s Edge or its use of any Units which it owns within Water’s Edge; and

(u) Any construction, erection, placement, or modification of any thing, permanently or temporarily, on the outside portions of the Unit, whether such portion is improved or unimproved, except in strict compliance with the provisions of Article IV of the Declaration. This shall include, without limitation, signs, basketball hoops, swing sets and similar sports and play equipment; clotheslines; garbage cans; woodpiles; above-ground swimming pools; and hedges, walls, dog runs, animal pens, or fences of any kind; satellite dishes and antennas, except that:

(i) an antenna designed to receive direct broadcast satellite services, including direct-to-home satellite services, that is one meter or less in diameter; or

(ii) an antenna designed to receive video programming services via multipoint distribution services, including multichannel multipoint distribution services, instructional television fixed services, and local multipoint distribution services, that is one meter or less in diameter or diagonal measurement; or

(iii) an antenna that is designed to receive television broadcast signals;

(collectively, “**Permitted Antennas**”) shall be permitted on Units, subject to such reasonable requirements as to location and screening as may be set forth in the Architectural Guidelines, consistent with applicable law, in order to minimize obtrusiveness as viewed from streets and adjacent property. Declarant and/or the Association shall have the right, without obligation, to erect an aerial, satellite dish, or other apparatus for a master antenna, cable, or other communication system for the benefit of all or a portion of Water’s Edge, should any master system or systems be utilized by the Association and require such exterior apparatus.

3. Prohibited Conditions. The following shall be prohibited in Water’s Edge:

(a) Plants, animals, devices or other things of any sort whose activities or existence in any way is noxious, dangerous, unsightly, unpleasant, or of a nature as may diminish or destroy the enjoyment of Water’s Edge (including, without limitation, any fence, wall, hedge, shrub, planting or other obstruction placed or permitted to remain in a “**Sight Triangle**” as shown on a plat or where it would create a traffic site problem); and

(b) Structures, equipment or other items on the exterior portions of a Unit which have become rusty, dilapidated or otherwise fallen into disrepair; and

(c) Sprinkler or irrigation systems or wells that draw upon water from ground or surface waters within Water's Edge; however, this restriction shall not apply to monitoring and test wells installed by Declarant or the Association; and

(d) Chain link or barbed-wire fences.

4. Leasing of Units. "Leasing," for purposes of this Paragraph, is defined as regular, exclusive occupancy of a Unit by any person, other than the Owner for which the Owner receives any consideration or benefit, including, but not limited to, a fee, service, gratuity, or emolument. No Owner shall lease its Unit, except as permitted by these Restrictions and Rules or in cases of emergency or undue hardship. The Board shall determine instances of emergency and undue hardship on a case by case basis, and such determinations shall be made in the Board's sole and absolute discretion. An Owner who desires to lease its Unit shall submit a written request to the Board, which request shall set forth, among other things, the extraordinary circumstances applicable that Owner's request to lease its Unit. Written requests shall be deemed to be disapproved in the event the Board has not expressly and in writing approved the request within thirty (30) days of the submission of such request. No member of the Board shall be liable to any Owner for any claims, causes of action or damages arising out of the grant or denial of a request for lease of its Unit. Each request for lease submitted hereunder shall be reviewed separately from other such requests and the grant of any such request to any Owner shall not constitute a waiver of the Board's right to enforce the Declaration or these Restrictions and Rules against any other Owner. In the event the Board grants a request for lease, the Board may impose such conditions or restrictions on the leasing arrangement as it deems appropriate. If the Board grants a request for lease, the following restrictions shall apply:

(a) Any Owner who leases its Unit to a tenant shall not be entitled to use and enjoy any of the Common Area during the period the Unit is occupied by such tenant.

(b) All leases shall be in writing.

(c) All leases shall have an initial term of at least twelve (12) months.

(d) Owner must provide to the Board in writing such documentation evidencing the leasing arrangement as may be requested by the Board, including, without limitation, the name of the tenant and the Unit leased and the current address of the Owner.

Notice of any lease, together with such additional information as may be required by the Board, shall be given to the Board by the Unit Owner within ten (10) days of execution of the lease. The Owner must make available to the lessee copies of the Declaration, By-Laws, and the Restrictions and Rules. This leasing restriction shall automatically terminate and be of no force or effect on the earlier of: (i) the five (5) year anniversary of the date this Declaration is recorded; or (ii) any such time as Declarant has contracted with a Builder other than Standard Pacific of the Carolinas, LLC for the purchase and sale of Lots in Water's Edge, provided however, that under items (i) and (ii) above, the restrictions listed in (a) – (d) above shall remain

in full force and effect unless otherwise modified or deleted in accordance with the terms of the Declaration.

5. Piers and Boatslip Use Restrictions. The Community Boatslips shall be available to all Owners for day-use only on a first-come-first-serve basis. No boat or other recreational vehicle shall be permitted to remain overnight in any Community Boatslip or attached to any Pier, provided, however, that the boats or other recreational vehicles of Owners to whom Exclusive Boatslips are assigned by Declarant pursuant to Section 11.10 are permitted to remain overnight in their respective Exclusive Boatslips, subject to the terms of this Declaration and any Supplemental Declaration establishing such Exclusive Boatslips. No boat or other recreational vehicle equipped with a marine toilet having a fixed or portable holding tank shall be permitted at the Piers or Boatslip(s). In addition, no boat or other recreational vehicle shall be moored at a Pier or Boatslip(s) if equipped with a through hull or overboard discharge toilet that has not been certified by the United States Coast Guard as an approved marine sanitation device. No dumping or pump-out is allowed within fifty (50) feet of any Pier. The Association reserves the right to impose sanctions for violators of these restrictions in accordance with Section 7.5 of the Declaration, including, without limitation, causing the boat or other recreational vehicles of any Owner to be removed, which removal shall be at that Owner's sole expense.

EXHIBIT "D"

By-Laws of Water's Edge at Mt. Holly Homeowners Association, Inc.

[Attached]

BY-LAWS
OF
WATER'S EDGE AT MT. HOLLY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

BY-LAWS

OF

WATER'S EDGE AT MT. HOLLY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Article I Name, Principal Office, and Definitions

1.1. Name.

The name of the corporation is Water's Edge at Mt. Holly Homeowners Association, Inc. (the "**Association**").

1.2. Principal Office.

The principal office of the Association shall be located in Gaston County, North Carolina. The Association may have such other offices, either within or outside North Carolina, as the Board of Directors may determine or as the affairs of the Association may require.

1.3. Definitions.

Unless otherwise specified, the words used in these By-Laws shall be given their normal, commonly understood definitions. Capitalized terms shall have the same meaning as set forth in that certain Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for Water's Edge, recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Gaston County, North Carolina, as it may be amended (the "**Declaration**"), unless the context indicates otherwise. The term "**majority**," as used in these By-Laws, means those votes, Owners, or other group, as the context may indicate, totaling more than 50% of the total eligible number.

Article II Membership: Meetings, Quorum, Voting, Proxies

2.1. Membership.

The Association initially shall have two classes of membership, Class "A" and Class "B," as more fully set forth in the Declaration. The provisions of the Declaration pertaining to membership are incorporated by this reference.

2.2. Place of Meetings.

Meetings of the Association shall be held at the principal office of the Association or at such other suitable place convenient to the Members as the Board may designate.

2.3. Annual Meetings.

The first meeting of the Association, whether a regular or special meeting, shall be held within one year after the date of incorporation of the Association. The Board shall schedule subsequent regular annual meetings to occur during the third quarter of the Association's fiscal year, on such date and at such time and place as the Board shall determine.

2.4. Special Meetings.

The President may call special meetings. In addition, it shall be the duty of the President to call a special meeting if so directed by resolution of the Board or upon a petition signed by Members representing at least 10% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association.

2.5. Notice of Meetings.

The President, the Secretary, or the officers or other persons calling a meeting of the Members shall deliver or cause to be delivered to each Member entitled to vote at such meeting a written notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting. In the case of a special meeting or when otherwise required by statute, the Declaration, or these By-Laws, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall also be stated in the notice. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except as stated in the notice.

Such notice shall be delivered by such means as permitted under Section 9.5, not less than 10 nor more than 50 days before the date of such meeting.

2.6. Waiver of Notice.

Waiver of notice of a meeting of the Members shall be deemed the equivalent of proper notice. Any Member may waive, in writing, notice of any meeting of the Members, either before or after such meeting. Attendance at a meeting by a Member 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. Attendance at a special meeting also shall be deemed waiver of notice of all business transacted at such meeting unless an objection on the basis of lack of proper notice is raised before the business is put to a vote.

2.7. Adjournment of Meetings.

If any meeting of the Members cannot be held because a quorum (see Section 2.10) is not present, a majority of the Members who are present at such meeting may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than 5 nor more than 30 days from the time the original meeting was called. At the reconvened meeting, if a quorum is present, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called. If a time and place for reconvening the meeting is not fixed by those in attendance at the meeting when originally called, or if for any reason a new date is fixed for reconvening the meeting after adjournment, notice of the time and place for reconvening the meeting shall be given to Members in the manner prescribed for regular meetings.

Members present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the departure of Members leaving less than a quorum, provided that any action taken is approved by at least a majority of the votes required to constitute a quorum.

2.8. Voting.

The voting rights of the Members set forth in the Declaration are specifically incorporated by this reference.

2.9. Proxies.

Members may vote in person or by proxy, subject to the limitations of North Carolina law and subject to any specific provision to the contrary in the Declaration or these By-Laws. Every proxy shall be in writing, shall identify the Unit for which it is given, and shall be signed by the Member or his duly authorized attorney-in-fact, dated, and filed with the Secretary of the Association prior to the meeting for which it is to be effective. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the proxy, a proxy shall be presumed to cover all votes which the Member giving such proxy is entitled to cast, and in the event of any conflict between two or more proxies purporting to cover the same voting rights, the later dated proxy shall prevail, or if dated as of the same date, both shall be deemed invalid.

Every proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon: (a) transfer of title to any Unit for which it was given; (b) receipt by the Secretary of written notice of revocation of the proxy or of the death or judicially declared incompetence of a Member who is a natural person; or (c) 11 months from the date of the proxy, unless a shorter period is specified in the proxy.

2.10. Quorum.

Except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws or in the Declaration, the presence of Members representing thirty-three percent (33%) of the total Class "A" votes in the Association shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Association membership. If any meeting cannot be held because a quorum is not present, the quorum requirement for any subsequent attempt to convene such meeting shall be one-half of the previous quorum requirement.

2.11. Conduct of Meetings.

The President shall preside over all meetings of the Association. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and record in a minute book all resolutions adopted and all other transactions occurring at such meetings.

2.12. Action Without a Meeting.

Any action required to be taken at a meeting of the Members may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote, if written consent specifically authorizing the proposed action is signed by all Members entitled to vote on such matter. Such consents shall be signed within 60 days after receipt of the earliest dated consent, dated and delivered to the Association. Such consents shall be filed with the minutes of the Association and shall have the same force and effect as a vote of the Members at a meeting.

Article III Board of Directors: Selection, Meetings, Powers

A. Composition and Selection.

3.1. Governing Body; Qualifications.

The affairs of the Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors, each of whom shall have one vote. Except with respect to directors appointed by the Class "B" Member, directors shall be Owners or residents. A "resident" shall be any natural person 18 years of age or older whose principal residence is a Unit within Water's Edge. No more than one eligible person from any Unit may serve on the Board at any time. If a Member is not a natural person, any officer, director, or partner, or any other representative designated in writing by the Member, shall be eligible to serve as a director unless the Member otherwise specifies by written notice to the Association; provided, no Member may have more than one such representative serving on the Board at a time, except in the case of directors appointed by the Class "B" Member.

3.2. Number of Directors.

The Board shall consist of three to seven directors, as provided in Section 3.3.

3.3. Selection of Directors; Term of Office.

(a) Initial Board. The initial Board shall consist of the three directors identified in the Articles of Incorporation, who shall serve until their successors are appointed or elected as provided in this Section 3.3.

(b) Directors During Class "B" Control Period. Except as otherwise provided in this Section 3.3(b), the Class "B" Member shall be entitled to appoint, remove and replace the members of the Board in its sole discretion until termination of the Class "B" Control Period. During such period, the Class "A" Members shall be entitled to elect a minority of the total number of directors according to the following schedule:

(i) Within 30 days after the time that Class "A" Members other than Builders own 25% of the Units permitted by the Master Plan for the property described in Exhibits "A" and "B" of the Declaration, or whenever the Class "B" Member earlier determines, the Board shall be increased to five directors and the President shall call for an election by which the Class "A" Members shall be entitled to elect one of the five directors, who shall be elected at large. The remaining four directors shall be appointees of the Class "B" Member. The director elected by the Class "A" Members shall not be subject to removal by the Class "B" Member and shall be elected for a term of two years or until the happening of the event described in subsection (b)(ii) below, whichever is shorter. If such directors term expires prior to the happening of the event described in subsection (b)(ii), a successor shall be elected for a like term.

(ii) Within 30 days after the time that Class "A" Members other than Builders own 50% of the Units permitted by the Master Plan for the property described in Exhibits "A" and "B" of the Declaration, or whenever the Class "B" Member earlier determines, the President shall call for an election by which the Class "A" Members shall be entitled to elect two of the five directors. The remaining three directors shall be appointees of the Class "B" Member.

Directors elected by the Class “A” Members shall not be subject to removal by the Class “B” Member and shall be elected for a term of two years or until the happening of the event described in subsection (c)(i) below, whichever is shorter. If such directors’ terms expire prior to the happening of the event described in subsection (c)(i) below, successors shall be elected for a like term.

(c) Directors After the Class “B” Control Period.

(i) Not later than 90 days after termination of the Class “B” Membership, the Board shall be increased to seven directors. The President shall call for an election by which the Class “A” Members shall be entitled to elect all seven directors. Four directors shall serve a term expiring at the second annual meeting following the six-month anniversary of their election and three directors shall serve a term expiring at the first annual meeting following the six-month anniversary of their election, as such directors determine among themselves.

(ii) Upon expiration of the term of office of each director elected by the Class “A” Members, Class “A” Members shall be entitled to elect a successor to serve a term of two years, Directors elected by the Class “A” Members shall hold office until their respective successors have been elected. Directors may be elected to serve any number of consecutive terms.

Diagram 3.1 illustrates the concept of transition of control of the Board of Directors during and after the Class “B” Control Period.

TRANSITION OF CONTROL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS			
Initial Board	25% of Permitted Units Conveyed	50% of Permitted Units Conveyed	90 Days After Termination of Class “B” Membership
Class B	Class A	Class A	Class A
Class B	Class B	Class A	Class A
Class B	Class B	Class B	Class A
	Class B	Class B	Class A
	Class B	Class B	Class A
			Class A
			Class A

Diagram 3.1 Transition of Control of Board

3.4. Nomination and Election Procedures.

(a) Nomination of Candidates. At least 30 days prior to any election of directors by the Class “A” Members, the Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of a chairman, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and three or more Class “A” Members or representatives of Class “A” Members. The Nominating Committee shall serve a term of one year or until their successors are appointed. The names of the members of the Nominating Committee shall be announced in the notice of each election.

In preparation for each election, the Nominating Committee shall meet and make as many nominations for election to the Board as it shall in its discretion determine, but in no event less

than the number of positions to be filled by the Class "A" Members at such election. In making its nominations, the Nominating Committee shall use reasonable efforts to nominate candidates representing the diversity that exists within the pool of potential candidates. Nominations shall also be permitted from the floor at any meeting at which an election is held, or by write-in on any ballot. All candidates shall have a reasonable opportunity to communicate their qualifications to the Members and to solicit votes.

(b) Election Procedures. At each election, voting shall be by written ballot. Each Class "A" Member may cast all vote(s) assigned to its Unit(s) for each position to be filled by Class "A" votes. Cumulative voting shall be permitted. That number of candidates equal to the number of positions to be filled by Class "A" votes receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected.

3.5. Removal of Directors and Vacancies.

Any director elected by Class "A" votes may be removed, with or without cause, by the vote of Members holding a majority of the Class "A" votes. Any director whose removal is sought shall be given notice prior to any meeting called for that purpose. Upon removal of a director by the Class "A" Members, a successor shall be elected by the Class "A" Members to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of such director.

Any director elected by Class "A" votes who has three consecutive unexcused absences from Board meetings, or who is more than 30 days delinquent (or is the representative of a Member who is so delinquent) in the payment of any assessment or other charge due the Association, may be removed by a majority of the directors present at a regular or special meeting at which a quorum is present, and the Board may appoint a successor to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

Except as provided below, in the event of the death, disability, or resignation of a director elected by Class "A" votes, the Board may declare a vacancy and appoint a successor to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting, at which time the Class "A" Members may elect a successor for the remainder of the term.

This Section shall not apply to directors appointed by the Class "B" Member, nor to any director serving as Declarant's representative. The Class "B" Member or Declarant shall be entitled to appoint a successor to fill any vacancy on the Board resulting from the death, disability or resignation of a director appointed by or elected as a representative of the Class "B" Member or Declarant.

B. Meetings.

3.6. Organizational Meetings.

The first meeting of the Board shall be held immediately following each annual meeting of the membership.

3.7. Regular Meetings.

Regular meetings of the Board may be held at such time and place as a majority of the directors shall determine, but at least two such meetings shall be held during each fiscal year with at least one every other quarter.

3.8. Special Meetings.

Special meetings of the Board shall be held when called by written notice signed by the President or Vice President or by any two directors.

3.9. Notice; Waiver of Notice.

(a) Notices of Board meetings shall specify the time and place of the meeting and, in the case of a special meeting, the nature of any special business to be considered. The notice shall be given to each director by: (i) personal delivery; (ii) first class mail, postage prepaid; (iii) telephone communication, either directly to the director or to a person at the director's office or home who would reasonably be expected to communicate such notice promptly to the director; or (iv) facsimile, computer, or other electronic mail, messaging or communication device, with printed confirmation of successful transmission. All such notices shall be given at or sent to the director's telephone number, fax number, electronic mail address, or mailing or physical address as shown on the records of the Association. Notices sent by first class mail shall be deposited into a United States mailbox at least five business days before the time set for the meeting. Notices given by personal delivery, telephone, or other device shall be delivered or transmitted at least 72 hours before the time set for the meeting.

(b) Transactions of any Board meeting, 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 (i) a quorum is present, and (ii) either before or after the meeting each director 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 also shall be deemed given to any director who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice.

3.10. Telephonic Participation in Meetings.

Members of the Board or any committee that the Board appoints may participate in a meeting of the Board or committee by conference telephone, video conference, or similar communications equipment, provided all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other Simultaneously. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this section shall constitute presence in person at such meeting.

3.11. Quorum of Board.

At all Board meetings, 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, unless otherwise specifically provided in these By-Laws or the Declaration. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present

may continue to transact business, notwithstanding the departure of some directors, if any action taken is approved by at least a majority of the required quorum for that meeting. If any Board meeting cannot be held because a quorum is not present, a majority of the directors present at such meeting may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than 5 nor more than 30 days from the date of the original meeting. At the reconvened meeting, if a quorum is present, any business that might have been transacted at the meeting originally called may be transacted without further notice.

3.12. Conduct of Meetings.

The President shall preside over all meetings of the Board and the Secretary shall keep a minute book of Board meetings, recording all Board resolutions and all transactions and proceedings occurring at such meetings.

3.13. 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, is signed by all of the directors, and such consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote.

C. Powers and Duties.

3.15. Powers.

The Board shall have all of the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the Association's affairs and for performing all responsibilities and exercising all rights of the Association as set forth in the Governing Documents, and as provided by law. The Board may do or cause to be done on behalf of the Association all acts and things except those which the Governing Documents or North Carolina law require to be done and exercised exclusively by the membership. Board determinations as to the meaning, scope, and application of Governing Document provisions shall be upheld and enforced so long as such determinations are reasonable.

3.16. Duties.

Duties of the Board shall include, without limitation:

- (a) preparing and adopting, in accordance with the Declaration, an annual budget establishing each Owner's share of the Common Expenses and any Service Area Expenses; and
- (b) levying and collecting such assessments from the Owners; and
- (c) providing for the operation, care, upkeep, and maintenance of the Area of Common Responsibility consistent with the Community-Wide Standard; and
- (d) designating, hiring, and dismissing personnel necessary to carry out the Association's rights and responsibilities and where appropriate, providing for compensation of

such personnel and for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and materials to be used by such personnel in the performance of their duties; and

(e) depositing all funds received on behalf of the Association in a bank depository which it shall approve, and using such funds to operate the Association; provided, any reserve funds may be deposited, in the Board's best judgment, in depositories other than banks; and

(f) making and amending Restrictions and Rules in accordance with the Declaration; and

(g) opening bank accounts on behalf of the Association and designating the signatories required; and

(h) making or contracting for the making of repairs, additions, and improvements to or alterations of the Common Area in accordance with the Declaration and these By-Laws; and

(i) enforcing by legal means the provisions of the Governing Documents and bringing any proceedings which may be instituted on behalf of or against the Owners concerning the Association; provided, the Association's obligation in this regard shall be conditioned in the manner provided in the Declaration; and

(j) obtaining and carrying property and liability insurance and fidelity bonds, as provided in the Declaration, paying the cost thereof, and filing and adjusting claims, as appropriate; and

(k) paying the cost of all services rendered to the Association; and

(l) keeping books with detailed accounts of the Association's receipts and expenditures; and

(m) making available to any prospective purchaser of a Unit, any Owner, and the holders, insurers, and guarantors of any Mortgage on any Unit, current copies of the Governing Documents and all other books, records, and financial statements of the Association as provided in Section 9.4; and

(n) permitting utility suppliers to use portions of the Common Area reasonably necessary to the ongoing development or operation of the Units and Common Area; and

(o) indemnifying a director, officer or committee member, or former director, officer or committee member of the Association to the extent such indemnity is required by North Carolina law, the Articles and these By-Laws; and

(p) assisting in the resolution of disputes between owners and others without litigation, as set forth in the Declaration; and

(q) at regular intervals, providing Members an opportunity to attend a portion of a Board meeting to raise issues and concerns. The Board may place reasonable restrictions on the number of and time restrictions on such persons who speak at such meeting.

Article IV Officers

4.1. Officers.

Officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The President and Secretary shall be elected from among the Board members; other officers may, but need not be Board members. The Board may appoint such other officers, including one or more Assistant Secretaries and one or more Assistant Treasurers, as it shall deem desirable, such officers to have such authority and perform such duties as the Board prescribes. One person may hold two or more offices, except that the offices of President and Secretary shall be held by different persons.

4.2. Election and Term of Office.

The Board shall elect the Association's officers at the first Board meeting following each annual meeting of the Members, to serve until their successors are elected.

4.3. Resignation, Removal and Filling of Vacancies.

(a) Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board, 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, acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

(b) The Board may remove any officer whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Association will be served.

(c) The Board may fill any vacancy in any office arising because of death, resignation, removal, or otherwise, for the unexpired portion of the term.

4.4. Powers and Duties.

The Association's officers shall each have such powers and duties as generally pertain to their respective offices, as well as such powers and duties as the Board may specifically confer or impose. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association. The Treasurer shall have primary responsibility for preparation of the budget as provided for in the Declaration and may delegate all or part of the preparation and notification duties to a finance committee, management agent, or both.

Article V Committees

5.1. General.

The Board may appoint such committees as it deems appropriate to perform such tasks and to serve for such periods as the Board may designate by resolution. Each committee shall operate in accordance with the terms of such resolution.

5.2. Covenants Committee.

In addition to any other committees that the Board may establish pursuant to Section 5.1, the Board may appoint a Covenants Committee consisting of at least three and no more than seven Members. Acting in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration, these By-Laws, and resolutions the Board may adopt, the Covenants Committee, if established, shall be the hearing tribunal of the Association and shall conduct all hearings held pursuant to Article VIII of these By-Laws and no Member of the Covenants Committee shall be a current officer of the Association or a current Member of the Board.

5.3. Service Area Committees.

In addition to any other committees appointed as provided above, each Service Area which has no formal organizational structure or association may elect a Service Area Committee to determine the nature and extent of services, if any, to be provided to the Service Area by the Association in addition to those dictated by any Supplemental Declaration and those provided to all Members of the Association in accordance with the Declaration. A Service Area Committee may advise the Board on any other issue but shall not have the authority to bind the Board. Any Service Area Committee shall consist of three Members; provided, if approved by the vote of at least 51% of the Owners of Units within the Service Area, the number may be increased to five.

The members of any Service Area Committee shall be elected for a term of one year or until their successors are elected. Any director elected to the Board from a Service Area shall be an *ex officio* member of the Service Area Committee. The members of the committee shall elect a chairperson from among themselves, who shall preside at its meetings and shall be responsible for transmitting any and all communications to the Board.

In the conduct of its duties and responsibilities, each Service Area Committee shall abide by the notice and quorum requirements applicable to the Board under Sections 3.9, 3.10, and 3.11. Meetings of a Service Area Committee shall be open to all Owners of Units in the Service Area and their representatives. Members of a Service Area Committee may act by unanimous written consent in lieu of a meeting.

Article VI Standards of Conduct; Liability and Indemnification

6.1. Standards for Directors and Officers.

The Board shall exercise its powers in a reasonable, fair, nondiscriminatory manner and shall adhere to the procedures established in the Governing Documents.

In performing their duties, directors and officers shall act as fiduciaries and shall be insulated from liability as provided for directors of corporations under state law and as otherwise provided by the Governing Documents. Directors and officers shall discharge their duties as directors or officers, and as members of any committee to which they are appointed, in a manner that the director or officer believes in good faith to be in the best interest of the corporation and with the care that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances. A director is entitled to rely on information, opinions, reports, or statements,

including financial statements and other financial data, prepared or presented by others to the extent authorized under the North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act.

6.2. Liability.

(a) A director shall not be personally liable to the Association, any Member, or any other Person for any action taken or not taken as a director if the director has acted in accordance with Section 6.1.

(b) Pursuant to the business judgment rule, a director also shall not be personally liable for any action taken or not taken as a director if the director:

(i) acts within the expressed or implied scope of the Governing Documents and his or her actions are not *ultra vires*;

(ii) affirmatively undertakes to make decisions which are necessary for the Association's continued and successful operation and, when decisions are made, makes them on an informed basis;

(iii) acts on a disinterested basis, promptly disclosing any real or potential conflict of interests (pecuniary or other), and avoiding participation in decisions and actions on matters as to which he has a conflict of interest (beyond that which all directors have by virtue of their ownership or occupancy of a Unit); and

(iv) acts in a non-fraudulent manner and without reckless indifference to the Association's affairs.

(c) The officers, directors, and committee members of the Association shall not be liable for any mistake of judgment, negligence, or otherwise, except for their own individual willful misfeasance, malfeasance, misconduct, or bad faith. The officers and directors shall have no personal liability with respect to any contract or other commitment made or action taken in good faith on behalf of the Association (except to the extent that such officers or directors may also be Members of the Association).

6.3. Indemnification.

Subject to the limitations of North Carolina law, the Association shall indemnify every officer, director, and committee member against all damages and expenses, including counsel fees and expenses, reasonably incurred in connection with any action, suit, or other proceeding (including settlement of any suit or proceeding, if approved by the then Board of Directors) to which he or she may be a party by reason of being or having been an officer, director, or committee member, except that the Association shall have no obligation to indemnify any individual against liability or expenses incurred in connection with a proceeding:

(a) brought by or in the right of the Association, although it may reimburse the individual for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the proceeding if it is determined, by the court or in the manner provided above, that the individual met the relevant standard of conduct under the North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act; or

- (b) to the extent that the individual is adjudged liable for conduct that constitutes:
 - (i) appropriation, in violation of his or her duties, of any business opportunity of the Association; or
 - (ii) intentional misconduct or knowing violation of the law; or
 - (iii) an unlawful distribution to members, directors or officers; or
 - (iv) receipt of an improper personal benefit.

This right to indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which any present or former officer, director, or committee member may be entitled. The Association shall, as a Common Expense, maintain adequate general liability and officers' and directors' liability insurance to fund this obligation, if such insurance is reasonably available.

6.4. Advancement of Expenses.

In accordance with the procedures and subject to the conditions and limitations set forth in the North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act, the Board may authorize the Association to advance funds to pay for or reimburse the reasonable expenses incurred by a present or former officer, director or committee member in any proceeding to which he or she may be a party by reason of being or having been an officer, director, or committee member of the Association.

6.5. Board and Officer Training.

The Board may conduct or provide for seminars and continuing educational opportunities designed to educate and inform its officers and directors of their responsibilities as officers and directors. Such programs may include instruction on applicable North Carolina corporate and fiduciary law principles, other issues relating to administering community affairs, and upholding and enforcing the Governing Documents. The Board may retain industry professionals, which may include property managers, attorneys, and accountants, as appropriate or necessary for such purpose. Each newly elected officer and director shall be encouraged to complete a training seminar within the first six months of assuming such position.

Article VII Management and Accounting

7.1. Compensation of Directors and Officers.

Directors and officers shall not receive any compensation from the Association for acting as such unless approved by Members representing a majority of the total Class "A" votes in the Association at a regular or special meeting of the Association. Any director or officer may be reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of the Association upon approval of a majority of the other directors. Nothing herein shall prohibit the Association from compensating a director or officer, or any entity with which a director or officer is affiliated, for services or supplies furnished to the Association in a capacity other than as a director or officer pursuant to a contract or agreement with the Association, provided that such director's or officer's interest was made

known to the Board prior to entering into such contract and such contract was approved by a majority of the Board, excluding any interested director.

7.2. Right of Class "B" Member to Disapprove Actions.

So long as the Class "B" membership exists, the Class "B" Member shall have a right to disapprove any action, policy, or program of the Association, the Board and any committee which, in the sole judgment of the Class "B" Member, would tend to impair rights of Declarant or Builders under the Declaration or these By-Laws, or interfere with development or construction of any portion of Water's Edge, or diminish the level of services being provided by the Association.

(a) Notice. The Class "B" Member shall be given written notice of all meetings and proposed actions approved at meetings (or by written consent in lieu of a meeting) of the Association, the Board or any committee. Such notice shall be given by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal delivery at the address it has registered with the Secretary of the Association, which notice complies as to Board meetings with Section 3.9, and which notice shall, except in the case of the regular meetings held pursuant to the By-Laws, set forth with reasonable particularity the agenda to be followed at such meeting.

(b) Opportunity to be Heard. The Class "B" Member shall be given the opportunity at any such meeting to join in or to have its representatives or agents join in discussion from the floor of any prospective action, policy, or program which would be subject to the right of disapproval set forth herein.

No action, policy, or program subject to the right of disapproval set forth herein shall become effective or be implemented until and unless the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) above have been met.

The Class "B" Member, its representatives or agents shall make its concerns, thoughts, and suggestions known to the Board and/or the members of the subject committee. The Class "B" Member, acting through any officer or director, agent or authorized representative, may exercise its right to disapprove at any time within 10 days following the meeting at which such action was proposed or, in the case of any action taken by written consent in lieu of a meeting, at any time within 10 days following receipt of written notice of the proposed action. This right to disapprove may be used to block proposed actions but shall not include a right to require any action or counteraction on behalf of any committee, the Board, or the Association. The Class "B" Member shall not use its right to disapprove to reduce the level of services which the Association is obligated to provide or to prevent capital repairs or any expenditure required to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

7.3. Managing Agent.

The Board may employ for the Association a professional management agent or agents at such compensation as the Board may establish, to perform such duties and services as the Board shall authorize. The Board may delegate such powers as are necessary to perform the manager's assigned duties, but shall not delegate policy-making authority or ultimate responsibility for

those duties set forth in Section 3.16. Declarant or its affiliate may be employed as managing agent or manager.

The Board may delegate to one of its members the authority to act on the Board's behalf on all matters relating to the duties of the managing agent or manager, if any, which might arise between Board meetings.

The Association shall not be bound, either directly or indirectly, by any management contract executed during the Class "B" Control Period unless such contract contains a right of termination which may be exercised by the Association, with or without cause and without penalty, at any time after termination of the Class "B" Control Period upon not more than 90 days' written notice.

No remuneration shall be accepted by the managing agent from vendors, independent contractors, or others providing goods or services to the Association, whether in the form of commissions, finder's fees, service fees, prizes, gifts, or otherwise; any thing of value received shall benefit the Association. Any financial or other interest that the managing agent may have in any firm providing goods or services to the Association shall be disclosed promptly to the Board.

7.4. Accounts and Reports

(a) The following accounting standards shall be followed unless the Board by resolution specifically determines otherwise:

(i) cash or accrual accounting, as defined by generally accepted accounting principles, shall be employed; and

(ii) accounting and controls should conform to generally accepted accounting principles; and

(iii) cash accounts of the Association shall not be commingled with any other accounts.

(b) Commencing at the end of the quarter in which the first Unit is sold and closed, financial reports shall be prepared for the Association at least quarterly containing:

(i) an income statement reflecting all income and expense activity for the preceding period on an accrual basis; and

(ii) a statement reflecting all cash receipts and disbursements for the preceding period; and

(iii) a variance report reflecting the status of all accounts in an "actual" versus "approved" budget format; and

(iv) a balance sheet as of the last day of the preceding period; and

(v) a delinquency report listing all Owners who are delinquent in paying any assessments at the time of the report and describing the status of any action to collect such assessments which remain delinquent (any assessment or installment thereof shall be considered to be delinquent on the 15th day following the due date unless otherwise specified by Board resolution).

(c) Upon Members' request, an annual report consisting of at least the following shall be made available to all Members to copy at Members' own expense within 75 days after the close of the fiscal year: (i) a balance sheet; (ii) an operating (income) statement; and (iii) a statement of changes in financial position for the fiscal year. Such annual report shall be prepared on an audited, reviewed, or compiled basis, as the Board determines.

7.5. Borrowing.

The Association shall have the power to borrow money for any legal purpose; provided, the Board shall obtain Member approval in the same manner provided in the Declaration for Special Assessments if the proposed borrowing is for the purpose of making discretionary capital improvements and the total amount of such borrowing, together with all other debt incurred within the previous 12-month period, exceeds or would exceed 20% of the Association's budgeted gross expenses for that fiscal year. During the Class "B" Control Period, no Mortgage lien shall be placed on any portion of the Common Area without the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination thereof, of Members representing at least 51% of the total Class "A" votes, in addition to such approval as may be required under Article XVII of the Declaration.

7.6. Right to Contract.

The Association shall have the right to contract with any Person for the performance of various duties and functions. This right shall include, without limitation, the right to enter into common management, operational, or other agreements with trusts, condominiums, cooperatives, or other owners or residents associations, within and outside Water's Edge. Any common management agreement shall require the consent of a majority of the total number of directors on the Board.

7.7. Agreements, Contracts, Deeds, Leases, Checks, Etc.

All agreements, contracts, deeds, leases, checks, and other instruments of the Association shall be executed by at least two officers or by such other person or persons as the Board may designate by resolution.

Article VIII Enforcement Procedures

The Association shall have the power, as provided in the Declaration, to impose sanctions for any violation of the Governing Documents. To the extent specifically required by the Declaration, the Board shall comply with the following procedures prior to imposition of sanctions:

8.1. Notice and Response.

The Board or its delegate shall serve the alleged violator with written notice describing (a) the nature of the alleged violation, (b) the proposed sanction to be imposed, (c) a period of not less than 10 days within which the alleged violator may present a written request for a hearing to the Board or the Covenants Committee, if one has been appointed pursuant to Article V; and (d) a statement that the proposed sanction may be imposed as contained in the notice unless a hearing is requested within 10 days of the notice.

The alleged violator shall respond to the notice of the alleged violation in writing within such 10 day period, regardless of whether the alleged violator is challenging the imposition of the proposed sanction. If the alleged violator cures the alleged violation and notifies the Board in writing within such 10 day period the Board may, but shall not be obligated to, waive the sanction.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the violation pertains to the failure to maintain one's Unit in accordance with Community-Wide Standard as set forth in Section 5.1 including, without limitation, keeping the grass at a reasonable length consistent with the Community-Wide Standard, the violator must request a hearing within five (5) days of receipt of notice of such violation.

Prior to the effectiveness of sanctions imposed pursuant to this Article VIII, proof of proper notice shall be placed in the minutes of the Board or Covenants Committee, as applicable. Such proof shall be deemed adequate if a copy of the notice, together with a statement of the date and manner of delivery, is entered by the officer, director, or agent who delivered such notice. The notice requirement shall be deemed satisfied if the alleged violator or its representative requests and appears at the hearing.

8.2. Hearing.

If a hearing is requested within the allotted 10-day period, the hearing shall be held before the Covenants Committee, or if one has not been appointed, then before the Board in executive session. The alleged violator shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The minutes of the meetings of the Board or Covenants Committee, as applicable, shall contain a written statement of the results of the hearing (i.e., the decision of the Board or Committee) and the sanction, if any, to be imposed.

If a timely request for a hearing is not made, the sanction stated in the notice shall be imposed; provided the Board or Covenants Committee may, but shall not be obligated to, suspend any proposed sanction if the violation is cured within the 10-day period. Such suspension shall not constitute a waiver of the right to sanction future violations of the same or other provisions and rules by any Person.

8.3. Appeal.

Following a hearing before the Covenants Committee, the violator shall have the right to appeal the decision to the Board. To exercise this right, a written notice of appeal must be

received by the Association's manager, President, or Secretary within 15 days after the hearing date.

Article IX Miscellaneous

9.1. Fiscal Year.

The Association's fiscal year shall be the calendar year unless the Board establishes a different fiscal year by resolution.

9.2. Parliamentary Rules.

Except as may be modified by Board resolution, *Robert's Rules of Order* (current edition) shall govern the conduct of Association proceedings when not in conflict with North Carolina law or the Governing Documents.

9.3. Conflicts.

If there are conflicts among the provisions of North Carolina law, the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, and these By-Laws, the provisions of North Carolina law, the Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, and the By-Laws (in that order) shall prevail.

9.4. Books and Records.

(a) Inspection by Members and Mortgagees. The Board shall make available for inspection and copying by any holder, insurer or guarantor of a first Mortgage on a Unit, any Member, or the duly appointed representative of any of the foregoing at any reasonable time and for a purpose reasonably related to his or her interest in a Unit: the Governing Documents, the membership register, books of account, and the minutes of meetings of the Members, the Board, and committees. The Board shall provide for such inspection to take place at the Association's office or at such other place within Water's Edge as the Board shall designate.

(b) Rules for Inspection. The Board shall establish rules with respect to:

- (i) notice to be given to the custodian of the records; and
- (ii) hours and days of the week when such an inspection may be made; and
- (iii) payment of the cost of reproducing documents requested.

(c) Inspection by Directors. Every director shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect all books, records, and documents of the Association and the physical properties owned or controlled by the Association. The right of inspection by a director includes the right to make a copy of relevant documents at the Association's expense.

9.5. Notices.

(a) Form of Notice and Method of Delivery. Except as otherwise provided in the Declaration or these By-Laws or by law, all notices, demands, bills, statements, or other

communications under the Declaration or these By-Laws shall be in writing and may be delivered in person, by United States mail, by private carrier, or if the intended recipient has given its prior written authorization to use such method of delivery, by telephone facsimile or electronic mail with written confirmation of transmission.

(b) Delivery Address. Notices shall be delivered or sent to the intended recipient as follows:

(i) if to a Member, at the address, telephone facsimile number, or e-mail address which the Member has designated in writing and filed with the Secretary or, if no such address has been designated, at the address of the Unit of such Member;

(ii) if to the Association, the Board, or a committee of either, at the address, telephone facsimile number, or e-mail address of the principal office of the Association or its managing agent, or at such other address as the Association shall designate by notice in writing to the Members pursuant to this Section; or

(iii) if to the Declarant, at the principal address of the Declarant as it appears on the Secretary of State's records, or at such other address as the Declarant shall designate by notice in writing to the Association pursuant to this Section.

(c) Effective Date. Notice sent in accordance with subsections (a) and (b) shall be deemed to have been duly given and effective:

(i) if sent by United States mail, when deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, correctly addressed, with first class or higher priority postage prepaid;

(ii) if delivered personally or by private carrier, when actually delivered to the address of the intended recipient, as evidenced by the signature of the person at such address who accepts such delivery;

(iii) if sent by telephone facsimile or electronic mail, upon transmission, as evidenced by a printed confirmation of transmission.

9.6. Amendment.

(a) By Class "B" Member. Prior to termination of the Class "B" Membership, the Class "B" Member may unilaterally amend these By-Laws, subject to the veto power set forth in subsection (c) below, if applicable.

(b) By Members Generally. Except as provided above, these By-Laws may be amended only by the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination thereof, of Members representing 67% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association, and the consent of the Class "B" Member, if such exists. Any such amendment shall be subject to the veto right set forth in subsection (c), if applicable. Notwithstanding the above, the percentage of votes necessary to amend a specific clause shall not be less than the prescribed percentage of affirmative votes required for action to be taken under that clause.

(c) Validity and Effective Date of Amendments. Amendments to these By-Laws shall become effective upon recordation unless a later effective date is specified therein; however, if the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is insuring or guaranteeing any Mortgage on a Unit, and if it provides written notice to the Board that it requests the same, it shall be given notice of and shall have an opportunity to veto any such amendment adopted during the Class "B" Control Period prior to such amendment being recorded. Any procedural challenge to an amendment must be made within six months of its recordation, or such amendment shall be presumed to have been validly adopted. In no event shall a change of conditions or circumstances operate to amend any provisions of these By-Laws.

No amendment may remove, revoke, or modify any right or privilege of Declarant or the Class "B" Member without the written consent of Declarant, the Class "B" Member, or the assignee of such right or privilege.