

INDEXING NOTE TO CLERK'S OFFICE:

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Please index in Grantee index under "Courtyards at West Cary" and under "The Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc."

**DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS
FOR
COURTYARDS AT WEST CARY**

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. NO SIGNS, EXCEPT SUCH SIGNS AS MAY BE INSTALLED BY DECLARANT OR THE ASSOCIATION AND SUCH SIGNS AS MUST BE POSTED BY LAW, SHALL BE PERMITTED WITHIN THE COURTYARDS AT WEST CARY.

[NOTE FOR TITLE EXAMINER: Article VIII, Section 8.8 of this Declaration requires a non-refundable initial contribution to be paid upon the initial purchase of a Lot by an Owner, other than a purchase by the Declarant.]

After recording mail to: Epcon West Cary, LLC
500 Stonehenge Parkway
Dublin, Ohio 43017

Prepared in part by: Nicole S. Loeffler
Weatherspoon & Voltz LLP

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"B"	Additional Property
"C"	Restrictions and Rules
"D"	By-Laws of The Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc.
"E"	Illustration of Typical Side Yard Easement Area

**DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS
FOR
THE COURTYARDS AT WEST CARY**

THIS DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS (“**Declaration**”) is made as of the 21st day of October, 2022 by **EPCON WEST CARY, LLC**, a North Carolina limited liability company, on behalf of itself, its successors, and assigns (“**Declarant**”).

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMUNITY

As the developer of the Courtyards at West Cary, Epcon West Cary, LLC has established this Declaration to provide a governance structure and a flexible system of standards and procedures for the overall development, administration, maintenance, and preservation of the Courtyards at West Cary as a planned community.

Article I Creation of the Community

1.1. Purpose and Intent.

Declarant intends by this Declaration to establish a general plan of development for the planned community known as the Courtyards at West Cary. An integral part of the development plan is the creation of the Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc., an association comprised of all owners of real property in the Courtyards at West Cary, to own, operate, and maintain various common areas and community improvements and to administer and enforce this Declaration and the other Governing Documents referenced in this Declaration. No lot shall be conveyed before the establishment of The Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc. with the North Carolina Secretary of State’s Office.

This document establishes a planned community under the North Carolina Planned Community Act, N.C.G.S. § 47F-1-101, *et seq.* (as it may be amended, the “**Act**”).

1.2. Binding Effect.

All property described in Exhibit “A” and any Additional Property which is submitted to this Declaration in the future by amendment of this Declaration or by recording one or more Supplemental Declarations in accordance with Article IX hereof (collectively, the “**Community**” or “**Courtyards at West Cary**”), 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 the Courtyards at West Cary, 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 XVIII.

1.3. Governing Documents.

The Governing Documents for the Courtyards at West Cary consist of:

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

all as they may be amended (“**Governing Documents**”). 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 the Courtyards at West Cary, as well as to their respective tenants, guests, and invitees. If a Lot is leased, the tenant and all occupants of the leased Lot are bound by and obligated to comply with the Governing Documents and the lease shall so provide.

The Association, the Declarant, and every Owner shall have the right to take legal action to enforce the Governing Documents. The Association shall have the specific enforcement powers and remedies described in Section 7.4 and elsewhere in the Governing Documents.

If any court should determine that any provision of this 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	
<p>Articles of Incorporation (filed with the Secretary of State)</p>	<p>Establishes the Association as a nonprofit corporation under North Carolina law</p>
<p>By-Laws (Board of Directors adopts; By-laws attached as Exhibit “D”)</p>	<p>Governs the Association’s internal affairs, such as voting, elections, meetings, etc.</p>
<p>Declaration (recorded)</p>	<p>Creates obligations which are binding upon the Association and all present and future owners of property in the Courtyards at West Cary</p>
<p>Supplemental Declaration (recorded)</p>	<p>Expands the Courtyards at West Cary and/or creates additional obligations, restrictions and easements on a portion of the Courtyards at West Cary</p>
<p>Restrictions and Rules (Board or members may adopt; initial set attached as Exhibit “C”)</p>	<p>Govern use of property, activities, and conduct within the Courtyards at West Cary</p>
<p>Board Resolutions and Community Policies and Guidelines (Board adopts)</p>	<p>Establish rules, policies, guidelines, and procedures for internal governance, interpret Governing Documents, and regulate operation and use of Common Area, Lots, and conduct within the Courtyards at West Cary, among other things</p>

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.

“Act”: The North Carolina Planned Community Act, N.C.G.S. § 47F-2-101, *et. seq.*, as it may be amended.

“Area of Common Responsibility”: The Common Area, Attached Product Maintenance Areas, the Maintained & Landscaped Areas, and 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 The Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc. filed with the Office of the Secretary of State, State of North Carolina, as they may be amended or restated.

“Association”: The Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc., a North Carolina nonprofit corporation, its successors or assigns.

“Attached Dwelling”: a residential dwelling, including any garage, constructed on an Attached Product Lot which shares a common (i.e., party) wall with one or more dwellings on one or more adjacent Attached Product Lots.

“Attached Product Lot”: a Lot that is part of the Community on which a dwelling is constructed, or will be constructed, and which dwelling is, or is intended to be, physically attached to a party wall to one or more dwellings constructed on one or more adjacent Lots, which may also be identified in this Declaration or in an amendment hereto as an Attached Product Lot. Initially none of the Lots identified on Exhibit “A” attached to this Declaration are Attached Product Lots.

“Attached Product Maintenance Areas”: The Association will provide certain services to the Attached Product Lots that are not provided to the Detached Product Lots. Said services provided by the Association to the Attached Product Lots shall include the following: maintaining, repairing, and replacing the roofs of Attached Dwellings; routine painting necessary to maintain the exteriors of the Attached Dwellings (including, but not limited to, the siding, fascia, soffit, and trim but specifically excluding all exterior doors); and maintaining the irrigation systems, and all components, if any, servicing the lawn area of the Attached Dwellings.

“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.

“By-Laws”: The By-Laws of The Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc. as they may be amended or restated. A copy of the 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 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 98% of the total number of Lots permitted by the Zoning Plan for the property described in Exhibits “A” and “B” if any, have certificates of occupancy issued thereon and have been conveyed to Class “A” Members;
- (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.

“Class B Member”: The Class B Member shall be the Declarant (initially, Epcon West Cary, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company), its successor or assigns.

“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, benefit, or enjoyment of the Owners, including private streets within the Community unless and until said private streets are dedicated and adopted for maintenance

by the NCDOT, Town of Cary, or Wake County, permanent detention or retention ponds, BMPs, elements of BMPs, or other stormwater control structures, and any improvements within the Common Area including the entrance monuments, clubhouse, pool, mailbox clusters, walking trails, irrigation system servicing the Common Area or the lawn area of Attached Dwellings (but excluding any subsequently installed irrigation system servicing a Detached Dwelling), pickle ball court, other community amenities, and fountains, if any, Declarant elects to construct for the common use and enjoyment of the Owners. Any such improvements may be initially owned by the Declarant but ultimately conveyed to the Association for the use and enjoyment of the Owners except for certain improvements shown on plats as public rights of way, if any, to be dedicated to NCDOT, Town of Cary, or Wake County, which may be conveyed to the Association until dedicated to the NCDOT, Town of Cary, or Wake County. Common Areas shall include areas on recorded plats for the Community identified as "Open Space 1 (1.296 AC)", "Open Space 2 (1.213 AC)", "Community Gathering Area (0.925 AC)", or similarly subsequently identified "Open Space" tracts.

"Common Expenses": The actual and estimated expenses which the Association incurs, or expects to incur, for the general benefit of all Owners in performing its responsibilities and exercising its rights and powers under the Governing Documents, including any reasonable reserve, as the Board may find necessary or appropriate in its sole discretion 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 and by the Class "B" Member, except payments due under leases of capital improvements such as street lights and costs of purchasing or installing capital improvements such as street lights or an irrigation well, if the Board determines such purchase to be in the best interests of the Association, shall not be considered an initial development expense or original construction cost subject to this limitation.

"Community" or "Courtyards at West Cary": The real property described on Exhibit "A," together with the real property described on Exhibit "B" if and when submitted to this Declaration pursuant to Article IX, less any portion thereof which is withdrawn from the coverage of this Declaration by amendment pursuant to Section 10.1.

"Community-Wide Standard": The standard of conduct, maintenance, or other activity generally prevailing in the Courtyards at West Cary, or the minimum standards established pursuant to the Restrictions and Rules, Board resolutions, and Community Policies and Guidelines, 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 the Courtyards at West Cary change.

"Courtyard Patio Area": That portion of the "Courtyard Side" of a Detached Product Lot and any adjacent Easement Area for the benefit of such Detached Product Lot, as described in Section 11.9, which is improved with one or more of a patio, deck, covered porch, or screened porch, together with any landscaping and other improvements within that portion of the Courtyard Side of such Detached Product Lot and the adjacent Easement Area which lies between the planes formed by the front and rear facades of the Detached Dwelling constructed on such Detached Product Lot as extended across the common boundary to the furthest edge of the Easement Area, except that the Courtyard Patio Area shall not include any portion of such area which is not enclosed by the fence installed by Declarant. If a Detached Dwelling's patio extends beyond the side of a Detached Dwelling to the rear of said Detached Dwelling, the Courtyard Patio Area shall also include that portion of said patio located at the rear of the Detached Dwelling, together with any landscaping and other improvements, to the extent the patio, landscaping, and other improvements located within the Detached Product Lot at the rear of the Detached Dwelling, or within the Easement Area, are enclosed by the fence and gate constructed by Declarant that encloses the Courtyard Patio Area.

"Community Policies and Guidelines": Rules, policies, guidelines, and procedures established by the Board that regulate the operation and use of the Common Area and Lots as well as conduct within the Community. The Community Policies and Guidelines may be periodically revised, amended, and supplemented at the discretion of the Board.

"Declarant": Epcon West Cary, 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, construction of improvements, and sale of all or substantially all of the Lots and the remaining undeveloped or unsold portions of the property described in Exhibits "A" and "B" and who the immediately preceding Declarant designates as Declarant in a recorded instrument and any Person acquiring all of Declarant's special rights and obligations

pursuant to Section 10.4 below. During the Development and Sale Period, Declarant may delegate certain Declarant rights and obligations set forth in this Declaration to other Persons.

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

“Detached Dwelling”: a residential single-family dwelling constructed on a Detached Product Lot, including any garage.

“Detached Product Lot”: a Lot that is part of the Community on which a single-family dwelling is constructed, or will be constructed, and which dwelling is not, or is not intended to be, physically attached by a party wall to a dwelling constructed on an adjacent Lot. Initially, Lots 1 through 8, inclusive, Lot 10, Lots 17-23, inclusive, Lot 77, and Lots 89-91, inclusive, as identified on Exhibit “A” to this Declaration, are Detached Product Lots.

“Development and Sale Period”: The period of time between the recording of this Declaration and the date as of which neither Declarant nor any Declarant Affiliate owns property subject to this Declaration and the Declarant no longer has the right to unilaterally expand the Community pursuant to Section 9.1.

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

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

“Lot”: A portion of the Courtyards at West Cary, whether improved or unimproved, which may be separately owned and conveyed and which is either (i) depicted as a numbered lot on a recorded plat for the Courtyards at West Cary, or (ii) a parcel of land intended for further subdivision and development. The term shall refer to the land, if any, which is part of the Lot as well as any improvements thereon. Detached Product Lots and Attached Product Lots may be referred to individually as a “Lot” or collectively as “Lots”.

In the case of a parcel of vacant land intended for further subdivision, the parcel shall be deemed to contain the number of Lots designated for residential use for such parcel on the Zoning Plan or Declarant’s site plan, whichever is more recent, until such time as a subdivision plat is recorded subdividing all or a portion of the parcel. Thereafter, the portion encompassed by such plat shall contain the number of Lots determined as set forth in the preceding paragraph and the number of Lots in any remaining portion shall continue to be calculated in accordance with this paragraph.

Lots may be combined or further subdivided, and boundary lines of Lots 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, any Supplemental Declaration or the Restrictions and Rules). In the absence of recording such a legal instrument, ownership of adjacent Lots by the same Owner shall not permit such Lots to be treated as a single Lot for purposes of voting and assessment, notwithstanding that such Lots may be improved with a single dwelling.

“Maintained & Landscaped Areas”: Landscaping and lawn areas within a Lot located outside of the Courtyard Patio Area, sidewalks (excluding the service walk connecting a Unit’s driveway and its front porch or stoop) unless the maintenance obligation for the sidewalk has been adopted by the NCDOT, Wake County, Town of Cary, municipality, or a governmental agency, walking trails, and retaining walls constructed by Declarant whether located within the Common Area or a Lot, if any, and any other portions of a Lot which are to be maintained by the Association for the benefit of the Members and Occupants as more particularly set forth in this Declaration, but specifically excluding those portions of a Lot which are the Owner’s responsibility under Section 5.1.

“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 Lot. The term “Mortgagee” shall refer to a beneficiary or holder of a Mortgage.

“Occupant”: A Person who occupies a Unit.

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

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

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

“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 creates or imposes additional easements, restrictions, and obligations on the land described in such instrument.

“Unit”: Detached Dwellings and Attached Dwellings may be referred to individually as a “Unit” or collectively as “Units”.

“Zoning Plan”: The land plan for the development of the Courtyards at West Cary approved by the applicable municipality, as it may be supplemented or amended, which includes all of the property described in Exhibit “A” and may include all or a portion of the Additional Property. Inclusion of property on the Zoning Plan shall not, under any circumstances, obligate Declarant to submit such property to this Declaration, nor shall the omission of property described in Exhibit “B” from the Zoning Plan bar its later submission to this Declaration as provided in 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 Wake County, North Carolina, or such other place as may be designated as the official location for filing documents affecting title to real estate in Wake 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 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 the Courtyards at West Cary 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 the Courtyards at West Cary, a framework of affirmative and negative covenants, easements, and restrictions that govern the Courtyards at West Cary. The initial Restrictions and Rules attached as Exhibit "C" are a part of that framework. However, 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 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) So long as the Declarant has the right unilaterally to amend this Declaration pursuant to Section 17.1, the Declarant may unilaterally execute and record amendments to Exhibit "C" to add new Restrictions and Rules or modify or rescind existing Restrictions and Rules.

(b) Subject to the terms of this Article and the Board's duty to exercise its powers in a reasonable, fair, and nondiscriminatory manner, the Board may adopt new Restrictions and Rules or modify, cancel, limit, create exceptions to, or expand the Restrictions and Rules.

(c) In addition, 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 at least 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.

(d) The Board shall send notice to all Owners or publish notice in a community newsletter or on a community intranet or website concerning any Restrictions and Rules change proposed under subsections (b) or (c) above at least five business days prior to the meeting of the Board or Members at which such action is to be considered. At any such meeting, Members shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard before the proposed action is put to a vote.

(e) 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.

(f) No action taken under this Article shall have the effect of modifying, repealing, or expanding any provision of this Declaration other than the Restrictions and Rules set forth in Exhibit "C."

3.3. Owners' Acknowledgment and Notice to Purchasers.

ALL OWNERS ARE GIVEN NOTICE THAT USE OF THEIR LOTS 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 Lot can be affected by changes to the Restrictions and Rules adopted pursuant to Section 3.2 as well as the unrecorded Community Policies and Guidelines adopted by the Board. Except for amendments adopted pursuant to Section 3.2(a), there is no requirement that the Community Policies and Guidelines and modifications to the Restrictions and Rules be recorded; therefore, all purchasers of Units are advised to request a current copy of the Restrictions and Rules and Community Policies and Guidelines 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 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.

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

(c) Flags. No rule shall regulate or prohibit the display on a Lot of the flag of the United States or the flag of North Carolina, of a size no greater than four feet by six feet, by the Owner or occupant of such Lot, provided the flag is displayed in accordance with or in a manner consistent with the patriotic customs set forth in 4 U.S.C. Sections 5-10, as amended, governing the display and use of the flag of the United States. No Owner shall construct, install, erect, or maintain upon any Lot or Common Area, any flagpoles.

(d) Household Composition. No rule shall interfere with the freedom of Owners to determine the composition of their households, except that 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 Lot on the basis of the size and facilities of the Lot 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, create a danger to the health or safety of occupants of other Lots, generate excessive noise or traffic, create unsightly conditions visible outside the dwelling, or create an unreasonable source of annoyance to persons outside the Lot.

(f) Allocation of Burdens and Benefits. No rule shall alter the allocation of financial burdens among the various Lots 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. No rule shall prohibit the transfer of any Lot, or require consent of the Association or Board for leasing or transfer of any Lot; however, rules may restrict leasing of multiple Lots by the same Owner or by related or affiliated Persons and may require a minimum lease term of up to 12 months. The Association may also require that Owners use lease forms approved by the Board and adhere to those leasing restrictions listed in section 4 of the Restrictions and Rules, attached to this Declaration as Exhibit "C".

(h) Abridging Existing Rights. No rule shall require an Owner to dispose of personal property that was in or on a Lot 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 Lot, and shall not apply to subsequent Owners who take title to the Lot after adoption of the rule.

(i) Reasonable Rights to Develop and Sell. No rule or action by the Association or Board shall impede Declarant's right to develop the Courtyards at West Cary, nor restrict Declarant or such builders as Declarant may so authorize from maintaining upon Common Areas and Lots which they own any facilities necessary or incidental to construction or sale of Lots. 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 Lot or from using any home as a sales office.

(j) Occupancy Restriction. No rule or action by the Association or Board shall violate the following occupancy restriction. The Association and Owners must comply with the following restrictive covenants regarding occupancy. Except as hereinafter provided, at least 80% of the occupied Units shall at all times have as a permanent Occupant therein at least one person who is 55 years of age or older (“Qualifying Occupant”); provided, in the event of (i) the death of a person who was the sole Qualifying Occupant of a Unit; (ii) a legal separation or divorce resulting in the sole Qualifying Occupant of a Unit moving out of the Unit, or (iii) the removal by reason of incapacitation (e.g. being placed in a nursing home) of the sole Qualifying Occupant of a Unit, then the spouse (or former spouse, in the case of a divorce) and any other members of the household occupying the Unit prior to the death, legal separation or divorce, or incapacitation of such Qualifying Occupant may continue to occupy the Unit. For purposes of this Subsection, an Occupant shall not be considered a “permanent Occupant” unless such Occupant considers the Unit to be his or her primary legal residence and actually resides in the Unit for at least six months during every calendar year or such shorter period as the Unit is actually occupied by any person.

Nothing in this Subsection is intended to restrict the ownership of, or transfer of title to, any Unit; provided, no Lot Owner may occupy the Unit unless the requirements of this Subsection are met nor shall any Lot Owner permit occupancy of the Unit in violation of the provisions of this Subsection. The Association shall be responsible at all times for maintaining age records on all Occupants of Units. On or before January 1 of each calendar year, the Association shall conduct a census of all Occupants of Units. The Association, through its Board, shall adopt rules and regulations to monitor and maintain compliance with the provision of this Subsection, including policies regarding visitors, updating of age records, the granting of exemptions pursuant to the provisions hereof, and enforcement. The Association shall periodically distribute such rules and regulations to the Lot Owners and make copies available to the Lot Owners, their tenants, and mortgagees upon reasonable request.

The Association, through its Board, shall have the obligation to administer and enforce the provisions of this Subsection in any legal manner available, as it deems appropriate, including, without limitation, conducting a census of the Occupants of Units, requiring copies of birth certificates or other proof of age for each Occupant of the Unit to be provided to it on a periodic basis, and taking action to evict the occupants of any Unit which does not comply with the requirements and restrictions of this Subsection. EACH OWNER HEREBY APPOINTS THE ASSOCIATION AS ITS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF TAKING LEGAL ACTION, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, LEGAL ACTION TO DISPOSSESS, EVICT, OR OTHERWISE REMOVE THE OCCUPANTS OF THAT OWNER’S UNIT AS NECESSARY TO ENFORCE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION. Each Owner shall fully and truthfully respond to any and all requests by the Association for information regarding the occupancy of that Owner’s Unit which in the judgment of the Board are reasonably necessary to monitor compliance with the provisions of this Subsection.

Each Owner shall be responsible for ensuring compliance of that Owner’s Unit with the requirements and restrictions of this Subsection, and the rules of the Association adopted hereunder, by that Unit and by its tenants and other Occupants of that Owner’s Unit. EACH OWNER, BY ACCEPTANCE OF TITLE TO A LOT, AGREES TO INDEMNIFY, DEFEND, AND HOLD THE ASSOCIATION HARMLESS FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, LOSSES, DAMAGES, AND CAUSES OF ACTION WHICH MAY ARISE FROM FAILURE OF THAT OWNER’S UNIT TO SO COMPLY.

The limitations in 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 XVII provided such amendments are not inconsistent with the Act.

Article IV Architecture and Landscaping

4.1. General

No structure or thing shall be placed, erected, or installed upon any Lot, right-of-way, or Common Area within the Courtyards at West Cary, and no improvements or other work (including installing fences, staking, clearing, excavation, grading, and other site work, exterior alterations of existing improvements, or planting or removal of landscaping) shall take place within the Courtyards at West Cary, except in compliance with this Article. No signs, except such signs as may be installed by Declarant or the Association and such signs as must be posted by law, shall be permitted within the Courtyards at West Cary. This Article shall not be construed to regulate or prohibit those

flags permitted under Section 3.4(c), or those antennae and other permitted devices described in Exhibit "C", provided they are installed in compliance with those sections and such rules as are specifically authorized in those sections.

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

The Declarant's activities shall be exempt from architectural review under this Section so long as the Declarant has rights under this Article, as described in Section 4.2.

4.2. Architectural Review.

(a) By Declarant. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or other instrument conveying any interest in a Lot, acknowledges that Declarant has a substantial interest in ensuring that the improvements within the Courtyards at West Cary 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, the Courtyards at West Cary. Therefore, each Owner agrees that no activity within the scope of this Article shall be commenced on such Owner's Lot 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 the Courtyards at West Cary or any real property that may be made a part of the Courtyards at West Cary pursuant to Section 9.1 and until a certificate of occupancy has been issued for a dwelling on every Lot, unless earlier terminated in a written instrument that Declarant executes and records.

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

Declarant may, but shall not be obligated to, delegate all or a portion of its reserved rights under this Article to (i) an architectural review committee appointed by the Board of Directors (the "ARC"), or (ii) a committee 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.

Article V Maintenance and Repair of Lots

5.1. Maintenance by Owners.

(a) Except to the extent that such routine maintenance responsibility is otherwise specifically assigned to the Association pursuant to Section 7.2 or any Supplemental Declaration applicable to the Lot, each Owner of a Detached Product Lot shall maintain, repair, and replace (i) the entirety of his or her Detached Dwelling including its interior, exterior, structure, and all components thereof, (ii) the Lot upon which the Detached Dwelling is constructed, (iii) all landscaping and other improvements within and comprising the Lot upon which the Detached Dwelling is constructed (except for any landscaping or other improvements within an Easement Area that benefits an adjacent Lot), and (iv) the fence, gate, and any other improvement located within the Easement Area (as defined in Section 11.9) that benefits that particular Owner's Lot. Said maintenance, repair, and replacement work shall be performed in a manner consistent with the Governing Documents, the Community-Wide Standard, Community Policies and Guidelines, and all applicable covenants. There shall be no right for an Owner of a Detached Dwelling to remove trees, shrubs, or similar vegetation located outside the Courtyard Patio Area without prior approval pursuant to Article IV.

(b) Except to the extent that such responsibility is otherwise specifically assigned to the Association pursuant to Section 7.2 or any Supplemental Declaration applicable to Attached Product Lots, each Owner of an Attached Product Lot shall maintain, repair, and replace (i) the entirety of his or her Attached Dwelling including its interior, exterior, structure, and all components thereof excluding the maintenance, repair, and replacement of the roof and routine painting necessary to maintain the exteriors of the Attached Dwellings, including, but not limited to, the siding, fascia, soffit, and trim, (which shall be the responsibility of the Association pursuant to Section 7.2) and (ii) the Attached Product Lot upon which the Attached Dwelling is constructed, and all landscaping and other improvements within and comprising the Lot, excluding the irrigation system servicing the lawn area of the Attached Dwelling (which shall be maintained by the Association pursuant to Section 7.2). Said maintenance, repair, and replacement work shall be performed in a manner consistent with the Governing Documents, the Community-Wide Standard, Community Policies and Guidelines, and all applicable covenants. There shall be no right for an Owner of an Attached Dwelling to remove trees, shrubs, or similar vegetation located on the Attached Product Lot outside of the Attached Dwelling's patio area without prior approval pursuant to Article IV.

The cost of maintaining the common wall separating each Attached Dwelling located on an Attached Product Lot and any exterior building materials shared by two or more Attached Dwellings (including, but not limited to, any shared siding, cultured stone and brick, gutters, fascia, soffit, and trim) shall be shared equally by the Owners whose Attached Dwellings share the common wall and exterior building materials. In the event of damage or destruction to the common wall or shared exterior building materials from any cause other than the negligence of any Owner, the Owners agree to repair or rebuild the common wall and shared exterior building materials with the cost of such repair or rebuild being borne equally between the pertinent Owners. All repairs or rebuilding of the common wall and shared exterior building materials shall be done in a manner so as to minimize interference with the use and enjoyment of the Attached Dwellings, and the Owner or Owners performing (or causing to be performed) such repair or rebuild shall promptly repair and restore the Attached Dwellings to the same or better condition before the damage or destruction. Each Owner shall have the right to the full use of the common wall and shared exterior building materials so repaired or rebuilt. If any Owner's negligence shall cause damage to or destruction of said common wall or shared exterior building materials, such negligent Owner shall bear the entire cost of repair or reconstruction. In the event actions of more than one Owner contribute to the damage or destruction of said common wall or shared exterior building materials, the rules of comparative negligence shall apply in determining their respective share of the cost of repair or reconstruction. Any dispute between Owners arising out of, or concerning, the maintenance, repair, or replacement of a common wall or shared exterior building materials shall be handled in accordance with the provisions of Article XIII.

5.2. Responsibility for Repair and Replacement; No Obstructions; Insurance by Owners.

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.

Each Owner and its invitees or occupants shall not obstruct the Area of Common Responsibility in any way, including, but not limited to, interfering with any utilities, roads, or lawns.

Each Owner shall carry property insurance for the full replacement cost of all insurable improvements on his or her Lot, less a reasonable deductible, and comprehensive public liability insurance for his or her Lot, including the Association as an additional insured under the policies of insurance, and providing the Association with certificates evidencing such coverages as of the date of conveyance of the Unit to the Owner, unless the Association is obligated to carry such insurance pursuant to any Supplemental Declaration or other covenants applicable to the Lot, or unless the Association otherwise notifies the Owner in writing that it is carrying such insurance on the Lot (which the Association may, but is not obligated to do hereunder). If the Association assumes responsibility for obtaining any insurance coverage on behalf of Owners, the premiums for such insurance shall be levied as a Specific Assessment against the benefited Lot and the Owner.

In the event of damage to or destruction of structures on or comprising a Lot, the Owner shall, within 180 days thereafter, complete the repair or reconstruction of the damaged structures in a manner consistent with the original construction or such other plans and specifications as are approved in accordance with Article IV. Alternatively, the Owner shall clear the Lot and maintain it in a neat, attractive, and landscaped condition consistent with the Community-Wide Standard. The Owner shall pay any costs not covered by insurance proceeds.

Additional covenants applicable to any Lot may establish more stringent requirements for insurance and more stringent standards for rebuilding or reconstructing structures on the Lot and for clearing and maintaining the Lot in the event the structures are not rebuilt or reconstructed.

Neither the Association nor Declarant shall bear any responsibility for the maintenance or safekeeping of personal property of any Owner or occupant of a Lot, 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.

With respect to the Attached Product Lots, the following shall apply:

- (a) in the event one side of the common wall has been damaged more extensively than the other, whether by act of nature, negligence or any other cause whatsoever, the Lot Owner that owns the more damaged side shall use all insurance money to be used for restoration, so long as restoration is permitted within applicable law.
- (b) All insurance required hereunder shall name the other Owner of the Attached Product Lot that shares the common wall, and the holder of any mortgage on the adjacent Attached Product Lot, as an additional insured(s).
- (c) Each Owner sharing a common wall shall provide the other with copies of insurance policies evidencing compliance with the provisions of this Section upon request, but in any event not more than annually.
- (d) Anything in this Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, each Owner hereby releases and waives unto the other all rights to claim damages for any injury, loss, cost, or damage to persons or to the Lot or any other casualty, as long as the amount of such injury, loss, cost, or damage has been paid either to either Owner or any other person, firm, or corporation, under the terms of any property, general liability, or other policy of insurance, to the extent such releases or waivers are permitted under applicable law. As respects all policies of insurance carried or maintained pursuant to this Agreement and to the extent permitted under such policies, the Owners each waive the insurance carriers' rights of subrogation.

5.3 Irrigation of Landscaping.

The Association shall have the authority to create rules, restrictions, and procedures governing the operation of an irrigation system that services the Common Area, Lots, or both including controlling how frequently the

irrigation system is utilized, if at all. This Declaration shall not create an obligation requiring either Declarant or the Association to install an irrigation system that services the Common Area, Lots, or both.

Pursuant to Section 47-3-122 of the Act, no requirement to irrigate landscape set forth in this Declaration shall be construed to require the irrigation of landscaping during any period in which the U.S. Drought Monitor, as defined in G.S. 143-350, or the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources has designated an area in which the Community is located as an area of severe, extreme, or exceptional drought and the Governor of North Carolina, a state agency or unit of local government has imposed water conservation measures applicable to the area. Any requirement to irrigate landscaping set forth in this Declaration shall be suspended to the extent the requirement would otherwise be prohibited during any period in which the Governor of North Carolina, a state agency or unit of local government has imposed water conservation measures applicable to the area. The Association may not fine or otherwise penalize an Owner for, and the Association shall not be in violation of, an irrigation requirement during a drought designated by this Section. For purposes of this Section the term "landscaping" includes, lawns, trees, shrubbery, and other ornamental or decorative plants.

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 the Courtyards at West Cary. 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 membership -- the owners of property in the Courtyards at West Cary.

Article VI The Association and its Members

6.1. Function of Association.

The Association has been established to administer the Courtyards at West Cary 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;
- (b) interpretation and enforcement of the Governing Documents;
- (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 the Courtyards at West Cary, 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, including the Declarant as to any Lot which it owns. 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 98% of the total number of Lots permitted by the Zoning Plan for the property described in Exhibits "A" and "B" have certificates of occupancy issued thereon and have been conveyed to Class "A" Members;

(ii) 20 years from the date of the 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.

Declarant shall hold a Class "A" membership for each Lot that it owns notwithstanding the termination of the Class "B" Membership.

(b) Automatic Membership; Exercise of Privileges. Every Owner automatically becomes a Member of the Association upon taking title to a Lot and remains a Member as long as the Owner holds title to such Lot. Acceptance of a deed to a Lot shall be deemed consent to membership in the Association. There shall be only one membership per Lot. If a Lot 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 Lot owned by a Class "A" Member is assigned one vote equal to that of every other Lot owned by a Class "A" Member. If there is more than one Owner of a Lot, the vote for such Lot shall be exercised as the co-Owners determine among themselves and advise the Secretary of the Association in writing prior to the vote being taken. Absent such advice, the Lot's vote shall be suspended if more than one Person seeks to exercise it. Voting rights shall be subject to suspension for nonpayment of assessments or other charges owed the Association as provided in Section 7.4(b)(ii).

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 have Class "A" voting rights with respect to any Units that it owns and, in addition, 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 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 XVI. 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 the Courtyards at West Cary.

(b) During the Development and Sale Period, or any time thereafter, Declarant, any Declarant Affiliate, and their respective designees shall have the unilateral right to convey to the Association, and the Association shall be obligated to accept, personal property and fee title, leasehold, or other property interests in any real property, improved or unimproved, which has been made subject to this Declaration. During the Development and Sale Period, or any time thereafter, Declarant shall have the unilateral right to convey via non-warranty deed, or as otherwise determined by Declarant in Declarant's sole discretion, Common Area to the Association in one or more transactions. Each conveyance of Common Area shall be free and clear of all liens and encumbrances of a monetary nature. Upon

Declarant's written request, the Association shall convey or reconvey to Declarant (or quitclaim any interest in) any portions of the Common Area which do not contain structures or facilities for common use, if conveyed by Declarant in error or needed by Declarant to make minor adjustments in property lines, subject to such membership approval as may be required by the Act.

(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 situated on the Common Area including, but not limited to, the clubhouse and pool, pickle ball court, and other common amenities, if any;

(b) all private streets and alleys, if any, within the Courtyards at West Cary until such time as the private streets and alleys are dedicated and assumed by the NCDOT, Town of Cary, or Wake County; provided, the Association shall have no responsibility for removal of snow or ice on streets or alleys;

(c) any landscaping, signage, street lights, fences, retaining walls, entrance monuments, walking trails, and sidewalks within public rights-of-way or sidewalk easements lying within or abutting the property subject to this Declaration, except to the extent such responsibility is otherwise assigned to Owners pursuant to Section 5.1 or assumed by a governmental body or utility provider;

(d) any pipes, lines, pumps, or other apparatus associated with utilities or stormwater control which service the Community as a whole located within the Common Area or within a Lot, except to the extent such responsibility is assumed by a governmental body or utility provider; however, Owners shall be solely responsible for maintenance, repair, and replacement of utility pipes, lines, pumps, or other apparatus that both services only their Unit and are located within their Lot, except to the extent such responsibility is assumed by a governmental body or utility provider;

(e) any pipes, lines, pumps, or other apparatus comprising any irrigation system serving the Common Area, if any, to the extent located within Common Area, rights-of-way, or easements granted to the Association;

(f) 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;

(g) 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;

(h) the Maintained & Landscaped Areas, specifically including such landscape maintenance services as the Board determines in its sole discretion, which may include, mowing, weeding, shrub trimming, sweeping walks and drives, fertilizing, topseeding, and repairing and replacing irrigation systems; however, the Board in its sole discretion shall have the right to increase, reduce, or otherwise modify the scope of the Association's maintenance obligations, including but not limited to performing no maintenance to the Maintained & Landscaped Areas, for any reason including but not limited to the Association's financial ability or inability to perform maintenance to some or all of the Maintained & Landscaped Areas. The Association shall have no obligation to water sod or replace dead or diseased sod located within a Lot or the Common Area;

(i) the stormwater control structures and BMPs contemplated in Article XIX of this Declaration. Upon conveyance of title from Declarant to the Association of the Common Area containing a detention pond, BMP, or any other stormwater control structures or appurtenant improvements, the Association shall (i) perpetually operate, maintain, inspect or allow to be inspected, fund, repair, replace, and modify the stormwater control structures, (ii) execute documents regarding maintenance and funding, and (iii) perform all other requisite obligations required by the Stormwater Agreement defined in Article XIX of this Declaration, as may be supplemented or amended, or as required by any agreement subsequently executed by Declarant or the Association pertaining to stormwater control structures or any appurtenant improvements; and

(j) Attached Product Maintenance Areas.

In order to carry out the Association's duties set forth herein, it is hereby reserved to the Association the right to unobstructed access on and upon each Lot, at all reasonable times to perform maintenance as provided in this Article. In the event that a pet, including a dog, is present on the area to be maintained by the Association, then lawn maintenance and exterior maintenance and repair services will not be provided by the Association, and there shall be no abatement or reduction in General Assessments as a result of the Association not providing such services. Further, the Owner may, at its election, plant annual flowers in front, side and rear beds established by Declarant in developing the Unit or approved in accordance with Article IV; provided that such maintenance by the Owner does not hinder the Association in performing its maintenance of the remaining yard spaces and provided, further, that no such planting by an Owner shall reduce the assessment payable to the Association. The Owner shall not otherwise plant any vegetation in the front yard except with the prior written approval of the Association.

Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed to a Lot, acknowledges and agrees that, due to differing amounts of exposure to the elements and other factors, some lawns may require more maintenance than others and that it is in the best interest of all Owners that the Association provide or provide for such lawn maintenance to the Lots and make a uniform charge to each Owner of a Lot without regard to the actual cost of maintenance of a particular lawn.

Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed to a Lot, acknowledges and agrees that the Association will provide certain services to the Attached Product Lots that are not provided to the Detached Product Lots. Accordingly, it is in the best interest of all Owners that: the Association provide for a uniform charge to the Owners of the Attached Product Lots that is not applicable to the Detached Product Lots; the Association shall allocate a portion of such charges to a separate capital account that is intended for the services performed to the Attached Product Maintenance Areas of the Attached Dwellings and Attached Product Lots; and due to differing amounts of exposure to the elements and other factors, the Attached Product Maintenance Areas for some Attached Dwellings and Attached Product Lots may require more frequent service than others and it is in the best interest of all Owners that the Association provide, or provide for, such services performed to the Attached Dwellings and Attached Product Lots and make a uniform charge to each Owner of an Attached Product Lot without regard to the actual cost or frequency of the services performed to the Attached Product Maintenance Areas of a particular Attached Dwelling and Attached Product Lot.

The Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, to maintain other property that it does not own, including, without limitation, property dedicated to the public, within a public right of way, or located within a Lot 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 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, nor the Declarant, 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 Members entitled to cast at least 90% 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" and "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.

7.3. 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) Property insurance for any insurable improvements on the Common Area insuring against all risks of direct physical loss commonly insured against. The total amount of such insurance after application of any deductibles shall be not less than 100% of the replacement cost of the insured improvements under current building ordinances and codes at the time the insurance is purchased and at each renewal date, exclusive of land, excavations, foundations, and other items normally excluded from property policies; and

(ii) Commercial general liability insurance on the Common Area, 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 \$2,000,000.00 per occurrence with respect to bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage;

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

(iv) Directors and officers liability coverage;

(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 Lots 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.

Premiums for all insurance on the Common Area shall be a Common Expense, unless the Board reasonably determines that other treatment of the premiums is more appropriate.

If the insurance described in clauses (i) or (ii) of this subsection (a) is not reasonable available, the Association shall promptly cause notice of that fact to be hand-delivered or sent via U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to all Owners.

(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 the Cary, 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 satisfies the requirements of Section 7.3(a). In the event of an insured loss, the deductible shall be treated as a Common Expense except that, 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 Lots 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;

(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;

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

(iv) provide that each Owner is an insured person under the policy to the extent of the Owner's insurable interest 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);

(v) provide a waiver of the insurer's right to subrogation under the policy against any Owner or member of the Owner's household; and

(vi) include an endorsement precluding denial of coverage 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 an endorsement requiring at least 30 days' prior written notice to the Association and each Owner and each mortgagee whom certificates have been issued, of any cancellation, substantial modification, or non-renewal.

(c) Restoring Damaged Improvements. In the event of damage to or destruction of Common Area or other property which the Association is obligated to insure, 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. Insurance proceeds shall be paid to the Association to be held in trust for the benefit of Owners and Mortgagees as their interests may appear.

The Association shall cause damaged improvements on the Common Area to be repaired or reconstructed unless:

(i) the Community is terminated;

(ii) repair or replacement would be illegal under any State or local health or safety statute or ordinance; or

(iii) a decision not to repair or reconstruct is approved within 60 days after the loss by Owners representing at least eighty percent (80%) of the votes in the Association 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 any portion of the Community insured by the Association is not repaired or replaced:

(i) the insurance proceeds attributable to the damaged Common Area shall be used to restore the damaged area to a condition compatible with the remainder of the Community;

(ii) the insurance proceeds attributable to damaged improvements on the Lots that are not rebuilt, including but not limited to gates and fencing, shall be distributed to the Owners of the respective Lots, or to lienholders, as their interests may appear; and

(iii) the remainder of the proceeds shall be distributed to all the Owners or lienholders, as their interests may appear, in proportion to the common expense liabilities of all Lots.

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 7.3(a).

7.4. Compliance and Enforcement.

(a) Every Owner and occupant of a Lot shall comply with the Governing Documents. The Association, and Declarant during the Development and Sale Period, shall have the right to file suit at law or in equity to enforce the Governing Documents, subject to the provisions of Article XIII. In addition, the Board may impose sanctions for violation of the Governing Documents as set forth in this Section 7.4 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 (subject to the limitations set forth in Section 47F-3- 107 of the Act), which shall constitute a lien upon the violator's Lot (In the event that any occupant, guest, or invitee of a Lot violates the Governing Documents and a fine is imposed, the fine shall first be assessed against the violator; 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);

(ii) suspending the vote attributable to a violating Owner's Lot, and suspending any services which the Association provides to an Owner or the Owner's Lot, 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;

(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 from continuing or performing any further activities in the Courtyards at West Cary; and

(iv) levying Specific Assessments pursuant to Section 8.4 to cover costs, which the Association incurs to bring a Lot into compliance with the Governing Documents, or costs incurred as a consequence of the conduct of an Owner or occupant of a Lot, 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 the Owner's expense, to perform maintenance on such Owner's Lot (including but not limited to, in connection with an Attached Product Lot, maintaining or contributing to the maintenance of a common wall), or to remove any structure, item, or improvement on such Owner's Lot in violation of the Governing Documents and to restore the Lot to its previous condition;

(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;

(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

(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 XIII, 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;

(ii) the covenant, restriction, or rule being enforced is, or is likely to be construed as, inconsistent with applicable law;

(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 within the Community.

7.5. Implied Rights; Board Authority.

The Association shall have the exclusive right to 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 shall be exercised exclusively 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 shall have the exclusive right to 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 and no single Member, or collection of Members, shall be permitted to act on behalf of, or bind, the Association. 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.

7.6. Provision of Additional Services to Lots.

The Association may provide, or provide for, additional services and facilities for the Owners and their Lots, and shall be authorized to enter into and terminate contracts or agreements with other entities, including Declarant, to provide such services and facilities. The Association may enter into bulk service agreements by which a particular service is provided (a) to all Lots, in which case it may include the costs of such services or facilities in the Association's budget as a Common Expense and assess it as part of the General Assessment; or (b) only to Lots which have been improved with Units or at the option of each Owner, in which case the cost may be levied against the Lots receiving service as a Specific Assessment. By way of example, such services and facilities might include, but shall not be limited to, the following: cleaning the Units' gutters, power-washing the Units' exterior, trash collection; pest control service; cable, digital, satellite, or similar television service; telecommunication and internet connection services; security monitoring; utilities; and other services and facilities.

Any Association contract for services may provide an opportunity for individual Owners or occupants to contract directly with the service provider in order to gain access to or obtain certain additional, optional services. Termination of any such additional, optional services provided to the Unit shall not relieve the Owner of the obligation to pay General Assessments or Specific Assessments levied pursuant to this Section for basic services provided to all Unit pursuant to the Association's contract for services.

In its discretion, the Board may discontinue offering particular services and may modify or cancel existing contracts for services, subject to the contract terms and any provision that may exist elsewhere in the Governing Documents requiring the Association to provide such services.

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 Lots as a Common Expense shall not exempt any Owner from the obligation to pay assessments for such services.

7.7. 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 a higher level of Common Area maintenance.

7.8. 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 do the following: 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.

7.9. Safety and Security.

The Association may, but shall not be obligated to, maintain or support certain activities within the Courtyards at West Cary designed to enhance the level of safety or security that each person provides for himself and his property. However, in so doing, the Association assumes no responsibility for personal safety or security of any Persons or their property. No representation or warranty is made that any systems or measures, including any

mechanism or system for limiting access to the Courtyards at West Cary 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 or measure is designed or intended. The Association, Declarant, builders, and the members, partners, affiliates, officers, directors, agents, or employees of any of the foregoing, shall not be responsible for or considered insurers or guarantors of personal safety or safety or security within the Courtyards at West Cary, and shall not 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 Lot, and their respective guests and invitees, shall be responsible for their own personal safety and the security of their property in the Courtyards at West Cary and each of them assumes all risks of personal injury and loss or damage to their property, including Lots and their contents, resulting from acts of third parties.

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 the following: expenses of maintaining, repairing, replacing, improving, and operating the Area of Common Responsibility; insurance as provided for in Section 7.3, 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 7.3; the cost of water or other utilities provided to the Area of Common Responsibility, and to Lots if metered through a master meter and billed to the Association; charges for services provided to Lots pursuant to this Declaration; 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 Lots and the Community; 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; and such other expenses as the Board deems necessary or desirable to keep the Community in good, clean, and attractive condition and to maintain and enhance property values and marketability of Lots within the Community.

There shall be three types of assessments: (a) General Assessments; (b) Special Assessments as described in Section 8.3; and (c) Specific Assessments as described in Section 8.4. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or entering into a recorded contract of sale for any portion of the Courtyards at West Cary, 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 the Courtyards at West Cary, 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 a rate of 10% per annum or such higher rate as the Board may establish by resolution, not to exceed the lesser of 18% per annum or the highest rate allowed by law), 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 Lot as provided in Section 8.6, until paid in full. Upon a transfer of title to a Lot, the grantee shall be jointly and severally liable for any assessments and other charges due at the time of conveyance, except that a Mortgagee or other purchaser who obtains title to a Lot upon the foreclosure of a first priority Mortgage of record shall not be liable for the assessments against the Lot which became due prior to such Mortgagee's or purchaser's acquisition of title to the Lot. For purposes of the foregoing sentence, "acquisition of title" shall be deemed to occur upon the earlier of: (i) the recording of a deed conveying title; or (ii) the time at which the rights of the parties are fixed following the foreclosure of such Mortgage.

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 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 Lot, or any other means. The obligation to pay assessments is a separate and independent covenant on the part of each Owner. No diminution or abatement of assessments or set-off shall be claimed or allowed for any alleged failure of the Association or Board to take some action or perform some function required of it, or for inconvenience or discomfort arising from the making of repairs or improvements, or from any other action 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 officer or duly authorized agent of the Association setting forth the amount of any unpaid assessments or other charges levied on the Lot. 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.

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. The estimated expenses in the budget may, in the Board's sole discretion, 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, and a reasonable contribution to a reserve fund for maintenance, repair, and replacement, as applicable, of the Attached Product Maintenance Areas to be maintained in connection with the Attached Product Lots. In determining the amount of such reserve contribution, if any, 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.

(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 Lot, subject to discount for unoccupied Lots as provided in Section 8.5 and subject to adjustment for certain charges applicable to the Attached Product Lots.

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 sole discretion. Any such subsidy and the characterization thereof shall be conspicuously disclosed as a line item in the income portion of the budget. In addition, Declarant may loan funds to the Association to cover one-time Common Expenses, such as the cost of construction of an irrigation well to provide low-cost irrigation water to the Common Area or for the purchase of streetlights, and any such loans and the debt service shall be disclosed in the budget as applicable. If characterized as a loan, the Declarant may charge and collect interest on the outstanding principal balance of the loan at a rate based on the 30-day London Interbank Offered Rate plus 200 basis points. 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) Notice of Budget and Assessment; Ratification. Within 30 days following the Board's adoption of any new or revised budget under Section 8.2(a), the Board shall send a summary of the budget, together with notice of the amount of the General 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 90% of the total number

of Lots then subject to the Declaration. 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 votes represented at the meeting. The Maximum General Assessment for each Lot shall be no more than \$3,300.00 per year for the 2022 fiscal year and shall increase for each subsequent fiscal year after 2022 by up to 10% 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" or "CPI" 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 publication of the CPI shall be substantially revised, transferred to any other governmental department, 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 formulate such an alternate index.

If any proposed budget is rejected or not approved, as applicable, 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.

(d) Budget Revisions. The Board may revise the budget and adjust the General Assessment 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 to cover unbudgeted expenses or expenses in excess of those budgeted under Section 8.2. Any Special Assessment shall require the majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Association, and during the Development and Sale Period, the written consent of Declarant. Except as otherwise provided in Section 8.5, Special Assessments shall be levied equally on all Lots subject to such assessment.

8.4. Specific Assessments.

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

(a) to cover the costs, including overhead and administrative costs, of providing services to a Lot pursuant to Section 7.6, either under a bulk service contract entered into by the Association to provide services to less than all Lots (for example, only to Lots improved with Units), to cover costs associated with the maintenance, repair, or replacement, as applicable, of the Attached Product Maintenance Areas of the Attached Dwellings (which shall apply only to the Attached Dwelling Lots), or upon request of the Owner pursuant to any menu of special services which the Association may offer (which may include items identified in Section 7.6). Specific Assessments for special services may be levied in advance of the provision of the requested service;

(b) for monetary fines imposed pursuant to Section 7.4 and to cover costs incurred in bringing the Lot into compliance with the Governing Documents, or costs incurred as a consequence of the conduct of the Owner or occupants of the Lot, their agents, contractors, employees, licensees, invitees, or guests; provided, the Board shall give the 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); and

(c) pursuant to Section 8.8.

8.5. Payment of Assessments.

Each Lot shall become subject to assessment hereunder on the date that the Lot is made subject to this Declaration; however, the General Assessment and any Special Assessment levied against a Lot shall be limited to \$25.00 per calendar year for any calendar year (or partial calendar year) prior to the earlier of (i) the first day of the month following issuance of a certificate of occupancy for the Unit constructed on such Lot and (ii) the day a Lot is

conveyed from Declarant to an Owner. The first annual General Assessment levied on each Lot shall be adjusted according to the number of months remaining in the fiscal year at the time assessments commence on the Lot.

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 Lot and impose special requirements for Owners with a history of delinquent payment. If the Board so elects, assessments may be paid in two or more installments. Unless the Board otherwise provides, the General Assessment shall be due and payable in advance on the first day of each fiscal year.

If any Owner is delinquent in paying any assessments or other charges levied on his Lot, the Board may require the outstanding balance on all assessments to be paid in full immediately or it may, in its discretion, permit payment of the outstanding balance in installments. Neither the Association nor the Owner is obligated to accept any proposed installment payment schedule. The Board may add reasonable administrative fees and costs for accepting and processing installments to the outstanding balance and include them in the installment payment schedule; provided, such costs may include reasonable attorneys' fees only if the Owner has first been given notice of the Board's intention to recover attorneys' fees and court costs, as required in Section 47F-3-116 of the Act, and given 15 days from the mailing of the notice by first-class mail to the physical address of the Lot and the Owner's address of record with the Association, and, if different, to the address of the Owner shown on the county tax records and the county real property records for the Lot, to pay the outstanding balance without attorneys' fees and court costs. The notice shall also provide the name and telephone number for a representative of the Association with whom the Owner may speak to discuss a payment schedule.

8.6. Lien for Assessments.

(a) Subject to North Carolina law, as it may be amended, if any assessment or installment thereof attributable to a Lot remains unpaid 30 days or more after the due date, the Association shall, upon filing a claim of lien in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Wake County, North Carolina conforming to the requirements of Section 47F-3-116 of the Act, have a lien against each Lot in favor of the Association to secure payment of assessments and other fees and charges due to the Association as authorized by the Act or the Governing Documents or as the result of any arbitrator's, mediator's, or judicial decision, as well as interest, late charges, and costs (including attorneys' fees and court costs, if and to the extent authorized under Section 8.5 and the Act) other fees, charges, fines, and costs of collection. Prior to filing a claim of lien, the Association shall make reasonable and diligent efforts to ensure that its records contain the Owner's current mailing address. No fewer than 15 days prior to filing the lien, the Association shall mail a statement of the assessment amount due and provide in such statement the required content set forth in Section 47F-3-116 of the Act by first-class mail to the physical address of the Lot and the Owner's address of record with the Association, and, if different, to the address of the Owner shown on the county tax records and the county real property records for the Lot. If the Owner is a corporation, the statement shall also be sent by first-class mail to the mailing address of the registered agent for the corporation. The claim of lien shall comply with the requirements set forth by the Act, including the required certificate of service and appointment of trustee to conduct a non-judicial foreclosure proceeding and sale. Subject to the limitations of North Carolina law, such lien shall be superior to all other liens, except (i) liens and encumbrances recorded before the filing of the claim of lien in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Wake County, North Carolina, specifically including, but not necessarily limited to, a mortgage or deed of trust on the Lot which is so recorded; (ii) liens for real estate taxes and other governmental assessments and charges against the Lot; and (iii) the lien of mechanics or materialmen, to the extent given priority under North Carolina laws.

(b) If the assessments remain unpaid for 90 days or more, and the Board votes to commence the proceeding against the specific Lot, the Association may foreclose its lien through judicial or, to the extent allowed by law, non-judicial foreclosure proceedings in accordance with North Carolina law, as it may be amended, except that any lien securing only fines or service or collection fees may be foreclosed only by judicial foreclosure.

(c) The Association may bid for the Lot at the foreclosure sale and acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, and convey the Lot. While a Lot is owned by the Association following foreclosure: (i) no right to vote shall be exercised on its behalf; (ii) no assessment shall be levied on it; and (iii) each other Lot shall be charged, in addition to its usual assessment, its pro rata share of the assessment that would have been charged such Lot 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 Lot shall not affect the assessment lien or relieve such Lot from the lien for any subsequent assessments. However, the sale or transfer of any Lot 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. The subsequent Owner of the foreclosed Lot shall not be personally liable for assessments on such Lot due prior to such acquisition of title. Such unpaid assessments shall be deemed to be Common Expenses collectible from Owners of all Lots 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, Special Assessments, and Specific 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 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. Initial Contributions.

Upon the initial acquisition of record title to a Lot by an Owner thereof other than Declarant, an initial contribution shall be made by or on behalf of the purchaser to the Association equal to an amount determined from time-to-time by the Board, in its sole discretion. On the date of execution of this Declaration, the initial contribution shall be Eight Hundred Dollars (\$800.00). 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 assessments, or a reserve for the benefit of Owners, but rather shall be considered a Specific Assessment secured by the Association's lien for assessments under Section 8.6. 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 as determined by the Board, in its sole discretion.

PART FOUR: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Declaration reserves various rights to the developer in order to facilitate the smooth and orderly development of the Courtyards at West Cary and to accommodate changes in the Zoning Plan that inevitably occur as a community such as the Courtyards at West Cary is developed.

Article IX Expansion of the Community

9.1. Expansion by Declarant.

Declarant may expand the Courtyards at West Cary to include all or any portion of the property described on Exhibit "B" (the "**Additional Property**") 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. Once a Supplemental Declaration is on file, the additional property described therein shall be included in Exhibit "A" and shall from and after the date of filing be incorporated into all references in this Declaration when referencing Exhibit "A."

Declarant's right to expand the Courtyards at West Cary pursuant to this Section shall expire when all the Additional Property described on 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 Exhibit "A" or the Additional Property. 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 the Additional Property in any manner whatsoever.

9.2. Expansion by the Association.

The Association shall not expand the Community.

9.3. Additional Covenants and Easements.

Declarant may subject any portion of the Courtyards at West Cary to additional covenants and easements. 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, and such property was not previously subjected to this Declaration, then the consent of the Owner(s) shall not 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 Lots 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 unless otherwise explicitly stated herein.

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.

10.3. Development and Sales Activities.

During the Development and Sale Period:

(a) Declarant and builders whom the Declarant so authorizes in writing may, to the extent permitted by applicable zoning and subdivision approvals and other recorded covenants and restrictions, construct and maintain

upon portions of the 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 Lots, including, but not limited to, business offices, signs, model Lots, and sales offices. 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 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. Special Declarant Rights.

Declarant may exercise any or all of the "Special Declarant Rights" described in N.C.G.S. § 47F-1-103(28).

10.5. Additional Covenants.

During the Development and Sale Period, no Person shall record any declaration of covenants, conditions, and restrictions, or declaration of condominium or similar instrument affecting any portion of the Courtyards at West Cary 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.

10.6. 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.

10.7. Exclusive Rights To Use Name of Development.

No Person other than Declarant, its authorized agents, and builders, shall use the name "Courtyards at West Cary," 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 "Courtyards at West Cary" in printed or promotional matter where such term is used solely to specify that particular property is located within the Courtyards at West Cary. The Association shall also be entitled to use the words "Courtyards at West Cary" in its name.

10.8. 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 the Courtyards at West Cary 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.

10.9. Right to Convert Lot to Common Area or Roadway.

Declarant reserves the right to convert any Lot which it owns to Common Area, public 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 Lot

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 Lot by Declarant to the Association as Common Area, the Lot shall cease to be a Lot and shall thereafter be Common Area. Upon recordation by Declarant of a plat or other instrument establishing a public right-of-way over a Lot that Declarant owns, the Lot shall cease to be a Lot and shall thereafter be treated in the same manner as any other property in the Community that has been dedicated to the public.

10.10. Central Telecommunication, Receiving, and Distribution System.

To the extent permitted by applicable law, Declarant reserves for itself, its Affiliates, successors, and assignees, the exclusive and perpetual right and easement to operate within the Courtyards at West Cary, a central telecommunication (including cable television and security monitoring) receiving and 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 telecommunications and cable television service in the Wake 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 defined by the laws, rules, and regulations of any relevant government authority, if applicable.

Declarant may 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 Lots as a Common Expense. If particular services or benefits are provided to particular Owners or Lots 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.

10.11. Notices and Disclaimers as to Community Systems.

In recognition of the fact that interruptions in service provided by any Community System may occur, the Association, Declarant, and any Declarant Affiliate shall not 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, 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 easements, restrictions, or limitations contained in the land title records, recorded plats, and any deed conveying such property to the Association, whether currently existing or proposed; and
- (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;

(ii) suspend the right of an Owner and the Occupants of the Owner's Unit to use any facilities within the Common Area pursuant to Section 7.4;

(iii) dedicate or transfer all or any part of the Common Area, subject to Section 16.3;

(iv) grant easements, leases, licenses, and concessions through or over the Common Areas;

(v) 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 16.3; and

(vi) grant such rights provided for under the Act.

(d) the Declarant's right to use Common Area, whether or not said Common Area is owned by the Association, during the development and construction of the Community for the following purposes: ingress and egress; constructing Units; performing improvements to the Common Area; storage of dirt, materials, machinery, and all other construction materials; and for any other purpose reasonably associated with Declarant's development and construction of the Community.

Any Owner may extend his or her right of use and enjoyment to the members of his or her family, lessees, and social invitees, as applicable, subject to reasonable regulation by the Board. An Owner who leases his or her Lot shall be deemed to have assigned all such rights to the lessee of such Lot 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 Lot and any adjacent Common Area or right-of-way and between adjacent Lots 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.

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

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, perpetual non-exclusive easements throughout the Courtyards at West Cary (but not through a structure) to the extent reasonably necessary for the purpose of:

(i) installing utilities and infrastructure to serve the Courtyards at West Cary, cable and other systems for sending and receiving data and other electronic signals, security and similar systems, walkways, pathways, and trails, drainage systems, streetlights, and signage on property which Declarant owns or within public rights-of-way or easements reserved for such purpose on recorded plats or in other recorded documents;

(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.

(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.

(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 Lot, nor shall it unreasonably interfere with the use of any Lot and, except in an emergency, entry onto any Lot shall be made only after reasonable notice to the Owner or occupant.

11.4. Easements Affect on Common Areas.

Declarant hereby reserves for itself and its duly authorized agents, successors, assigns, and mortgagees, an easement over the Common Area for the purpose of enjoyment, use, access, and development of the Additional Property whether or not such property is made subject to the Declaration or has been conveyed to the Association. This easement includes, but is not limited to, a right of ingress and egress over the Common Area for the storage of dirt, machinery, and supplies, the construction of roads, Units, and improvements on the Common Area, 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.

11.5. Easements for Maintenance, Emergency, and Enforcement.

Declarant grants to the Association easements over the Courtyards at West Cary as necessary to enable the Association to fulfill its maintenance responsibilities under this Declaration, including Sections 7.2 and 7.6, and otherwise exercise its authority and fulfill its duties under the Governing Documents. The Association shall also have the right, but not the obligation, to enter upon any Lot 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 onto an occupied Lot for any purpose other than performing exterior maintenance pursuant to Section 7.2 or any Supplemental Declaration, shall only be during daylight 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 the Courtyards at West Cary, including Lots, and a perpetual nonexclusive easement of access throughout the Courtyards at West Cary to the extent reasonably necessary to exercise such right. Except in an emergency, entry onto a Lot 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 Easements.

Declarant, 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 depicted on any plat of the Community, and those portions of Lots designated, or similarly designated, as "Landscaping and Signage Easements" on the recorded subdivision plats relating to the Courtyards at West Cary 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 or

Landscaping and Signage Easement. No fences, structures, driveways, plantings, swings, wood piles, dog runs, or any other objects, temporary or permanent, shall be permitted in any Landscape and Signage Easement 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 Lots, to (a) install, operate, maintain, and replace pumps and lines to supply irrigation water to the Area of Common Responsibility; (b) construct, maintain, and repair structures and equipment used for retaining stormwater; and (c) maintain such areas in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard. Except in an emergency, entry onto a Lot 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. Side Yard Easements.

(a) The Declarant anticipates that most, if not all, of the Detached Product Lots will be improved with a Detached Dwelling which has one or more of a patio, deck, covered porch, or screened porch between the main structure of the Detached Dwelling and the side lot line on one side (the "Courtyard Side") which is directly accessible from one or more doors on the Courtyard Side of the Detached Dwelling (each such Lot being a "Benefited Lot"). For some Detached Dwellings the patio may extend beyond the side of the main structure of the Detached Dwelling to the rear of said Detached Dwelling or be located solely at the rear of the Detached Dwelling. For purposes of this Section 11.9:

(i) the side of each Detached Dwelling which is opposite its Courtyard Side is referred to as its "Passive Side;"

(ii) the side lot line of each Lot on its Courtyard Side is referred to as its "Courtyard Side Lot Line;"
and

(iii) the Lot which abuts the Courtyard Side Lot Line of a Benefited Lot is referred to as the "Burdened Lot".

(b) In order to make available to each Benefited Lot a larger and more private Courtyard Patio Area than can be accommodated on the Benefited Lot alone, the Declarant hereby establishes a permanent, nonexclusive easement appurtenant to each Benefited Lot over all of the following:

(i) that portion of the adjacent Burdened Lot or adjacent Common Area lying within five (5) feet of the Courtyard Side Lot Line which forms the common boundary between the Benefited Lot and such Burdened Lot or Common Area, and extending the entire length of such common boundary, except that if at any point such common boundary lies within five (5) feet of the Detached Dwelling, driveway, or similar improvement constructed by Declarant on the Burdened Lot, or within five (5) feet of any sidewalk, path, or similar improvement constructed by Declarant on the adjacent Common Area, then this easement shall extend only to the Detached Dwelling, driveway, or similar improvement on the Burdened Lot or the nearest edge of such sidewalk, path, or similar improvement on the adjacent Common Area;

(ii) if the Courtyard Side of the Benefited Lot is adjacent to a Burdened Lot (rather than Common Area), then any additional area between the common boundary and the Passive Side of the Detached Dwelling

constructed on the Burdened Lot which lies between the planes formed by the front and rear façade of the Detached Dwelling on the Benefited Lot as extended to the planes formed by the front and rear façade of the Passive Side of the Detached Dwelling on the Burdened Lot, except that if the fence and gate enclosing a Benefited Lot's Courtyard Patio Area, as originally installed by Declarant, encroaches onto the Burdened Lot but does not extend entirely to the Passive Side of the Detached Dwelling on the Burdened Lot, then this easement shall extend only five (5) feet from the shared common boundary lot line onto the Burdened Lot as discussed in subsection (i) above and, additionally, the easement shall extend and include any additional portion of the Benefited Lot's enclosed Courtyard Patio Area located on the Burdened Lot beyond said five (5) feet; and

(iii) if the Courtyard Side of the Benefited Lot is adjacent to a Burdened Lot (rather than Common Area), any portion of a Benefited Lot's enclosed Courtyard Patio Area located on the Burdened Lot not otherwise included in clause (i) and (ii) above.

The areas described in clause (i) and, if applicable, clauses (ii) and (iii) above are collectively referred to as the "Easement Area". A diagram illustrating the typical Easement Area is attached as Exhibit "E." Exhibit "E" does not illustrate all potential Easement Area configurations. If the language of this section 11.9 conflicts with Exhibit "E", the language of section 11.9 shall govern.

Certain Lots within the Community may not receive either, or both, the benefit or burden of an Easement Area. If the fence and gate constructed by Declarant which encloses a Detached Dwelling's Courtyard Patio Area is entirely located within this Detached Dwelling's Lot (a "Non-Benefited Easement Lot"), no Easement Area shall be created to benefit the Non-Benefited Easement Lot and thus no Easement Area shall be created to burden the Passive Side of the adjacent Lot which shares a Courtyard Side Lot Line with the Non-Benefited Easement Lot's Courtyard Side. However, the Non-Benefited Easement Lot may still be burdened by an Easement Area on its Passive Side. The Courtyard Side of the adjacent Lot which shares a Courtyard Side Lot Line with the Non-Benefited Easement Lot's Passive Side may be benefited by an Easement Area over the Non-Benefited Easement Lot's Passive Side.

The Easement Area may be exercised by the Owner and occupants of the Benefited Detached Dwelling for the following purposes:

(i) installation, maintenance, repair and replacement of one or more fences and gates, in such location as may be installed by the Declarant or otherwise approved pursuant to Article IV hereof, for purposes of enclosing all or a portion of the Courtyard Side of the Detached Dwelling on the Benefited Lot and the Easement Area adjacent thereto, to serve as a Courtyard Patio Area for the Benefited Lot; provided, any such fence and gate shall include a gate allowing pedestrian access through such fence for purposes of exercising the easements set forth below in this Section 11.9 and elsewhere in the Declaration; and

(ii) pedestrian access to, and use and enjoyment of, the Courtyard Patio Area serving the Benefited Lot by the Owners and occupants of the Benefited Lot and their guests and invitees; provided, persons exercising this easement shall not engage in any activities which could result in objects hitting or damaging the improvements on the Burdened Lot or which interfere with the right of the Owner and occupants of the Burdened Lot to quiet enjoyment of their Detached Dwelling, and shall comply with all Restrictions and Rules and Community Policies and Guidelines which the Association may establish from time-to-time regulating use of such Easement Areas; and

(iii) installation and maintenance by the Owner and occupants of the Benefited Lot of landscaping and improvements within that portion of the Easement Area which lies within the Courtyard Patio Area for the Benefited Lot, subject to prior approval pursuant to Article IV; provided, there shall be no right to alter, deface, attach anything to, or lean anything against the Detached Dwelling on the Burdened Lot, or permit vines or other landscaping to attach itself to, climb, or lean against, the Detached Dwelling on the Burdened Lot, nor any right to construct, install, place or store anything in the Easement Area in a manner which hinders access to the Detached Dwelling on the Burdened Lot for purposes of performing maintenance and repairs to such Detached Dwelling. The Owner of a Benefited Lot shall have no right to place personal property or install landscaping and other improvements within that portion of the Benefited Lot's Easement Area located outside the Benefited Lot's Courtyard Patio Area.

The Owner of the Benefited Lot shall be solely responsible for maintenance, repair, and replacement of all landscaping and improvements within that portion of the Easement Area contained within the Courtyard Patio Area

serving the Benefited Lot, and for the maintenance and security of all items of personal property placed in such Courtyard Patio Area.

The Owner of the Benefited Lot shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Owner and occupants of the Burdened Lot from any and all claims, losses, damages, and causes of action which may arise from the use or alteration of the Easement Area by the Owner and occupants of the Benefited Lots, their contractors, agents, guests, and invitees. The Owner of the Benefited Lot shall be responsible for any damage to the Burdened Lot or improvements thereon resulting from the exercise of the easement rights provided for in this Section 11.9 and, in the event of any such damage, shall promptly repair the damage and restore the Burdened Lot to its condition prior to such damage, using materials of equal or better quality than the original and matching original colors; provided, the Owner of the Benefited Lot shall give the Owner of the Burdened Lot reasonable notice prior to making any repairs to structures on the Burdened Lot. If any such damage has not been repaired and the property restored to its prior condition within fourteen (14) days after written notice to the Owner of the Benefited Lot, or in the case of damage requiring immediate repair to avoid further damage, immediately commenced and diligently pursued to completion, the Owner of the Burdened Lot may undertake such repairs himself, in which event the Owner of the Benefited Lot shall reimburse the Owner of the Burdened Lot for the full cost of such repairs within ten (10) days after completion of such repairs and delivery of an invoice for the same to the Owner of the Benefited Lot.

The Owner and occupants of a Benefited Lot, their contractors, agents, guests, and invitees, by entering upon the Easement Area or otherwise exercising the easement rights granted in this subsection (b), shall be deemed to knowingly assume any and all risks associated with their entry upon and use of the Easement Area and waive and release any and all claims, rights, and causes of action against the Owner and occupants of the Burdened Lot arising out of or which may arise out of such entry and use, except to the extent proximately caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Owner or occupants of the Burdened Lot, their guests or invitees.

The existence of the easement granted herein shall not entitle any such persons to any proceeds from insurance maintained by the Burdened Lot Owner with respect to the Burdened Lot. The Owner of the Benefited Lot shall be solely responsible for maintaining such liability and property insurance as such Owner deems advisable for the benefit of the Owner and Occupants of the Benefited Lot, their respective guests and invitees, and their personal property. In addition, the Owner of the Benefited Lot shall maintain contractual liability insurance to fund its obligation to indemnify and defend under this subsection (b). Failure of the Owner of the Benefited Lot to fulfill its obligations under this subsection (b) shall entitle the Owner of the Burdened Lot to pursue any and all remedies available at law or in equity, subject to the provisions of Article XIII hereof.

No construction, installation, or modification of improvements on a Burdened Lot after initial construction shall interfere with or modify the terms of the easement rights granted in this subsection (b).

(c) The Owner of the Burdened Lot shall have a perpetual, nonexclusive easement over the Benefited Lot and through any gate and fence on the Benefited Lot as necessary for the Owner and occupants of the Burdened Lot, their contractors, and designees, to obtain access to that portion of the Easement Area within the Courtyard Patio Area serving the Benefited Lot, for purposes of (i) construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, repair, replacement, and reconstruction of the Detached Dwelling and related improvements on the Burdened Lot, and (ii) installation, maintenance, and repair of utilities and utility meters to serve the Burdened Lot, and for reading of any such utility meters. Except as contemplated by this subsection (c), the Owner and occupants of the Burdened Lot shall have no right to enter into any portion of the Courtyard Patio Area serving the Benefited Lot, but shall retain the right to use that portion of the Easement Area within any such Courtyard Patio Area for support of the Detached Dwelling on the Burdened Lot and for flow of stormwater from the roof of the Detached Dwelling on the Burdened Lot and the flow of surface drainage over, across, and through the Easement Area in accordance with the stormwater and drainage plans established by Declarant as a part of the original construction of improvements on the Lots. Except in an emergency situation, any entry into a Courtyard Patio Area under clauses (i) or (ii) of this subsection (c) shall be only during daylight hours and only after reasonable notice to the Owner or Occupant of the Benefited Lot. Except as expressly set forth herein, the Owner and occupants of the Burdened Lot shall have no possessory or use rights in and to that portion of the Easement Area on the Burdened Lot lying within the Courtyard Patio Area serving the adjacent Benefited Lot and no right to grant easements over such area to any other person without the consent of the Owner of the Benefited Lot.

(d) Declarant hereby reserves a perpetual, nonexclusive easement of access over and through any fence and gate constructed on a Benefited Lot or a Burdened Lot, for purposes of access to construct or install improvements and landscaping on the Burdened Lot, and to inspect, maintain, repair, and replace the same, which easement may be exercised by the Declarant, its employees, contractors, agents, and authorized designees; provided, reasonable efforts shall be made to notify the Lot Owner prior to any entry into a fenced area and such entry shall be only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. unless additional hours are otherwise authorized in writing by such Owner.

(e) Declarant hereby grants to the Association, a perpetual, nonexclusive easement of access over and through any fence and gate constructed on a Lot for purposes of access to inspect, maintain, repair, and replace any improvements or landscaping on such Lot, or on any adjacent Lot, which are the Association's responsibility hereunder and for such other purposes as may be authorized in this Declaration or applicable law, which easement may be exercised by the Association and its employees, contractors, agents, and authorized designees; provided, reasonable efforts shall be made to notify the Lot Owner prior to any entry into a fenced area and such entry shall be only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. unless additional hours otherwise authorized in writing by such Owner.

(f) Failure of any Owner to enforce any of the provisions of this Section 11.9 shall not be deemed a waiver of the right to do so thereafter for the same or subsequent violations or a waiver of the right to enforce any other provisions hereof.

Article XII Party Walls and Other Shared Structures

12.1. Grant of Easements.

The Owners of Attached Product Lots hereby grant to the Owner of any adjacent Attached Product Lot that shares a common wall, and their successors, heirs, and assigns, as applicable, for the benefit of and as an appurtenance to the other's Lot, and as a burden upon the granting Owner's Lot, a perpetual, non-exclusive easement on, over, across, and in (i) that part of each Owner's Lot on which the common wall is located, for the purposes of the location of the common wall to serve as a structural wall and building envelope for the Attached Dwellings, and (ii) any other additional area of the granting Owner's Lot reasonably necessary for the other Owner's use in order to repair, replace, and maintain the common wall in accordance with the terms of this Declaration.

The Owners of Attached Product Lots whose Attached Dwellings comprise a single building hereby grant to each Owner within said building, and to their successors, heirs, and assigns, as applicable, for the benefit of and as an appurtenance to each Owner within said building, and as a burden upon the granting Owner's Lot, a perpetual, non-exclusive easement on, over, and across the roof, gutters, downspouts, and related improvements of each Attached Dwelling for the flow of stormwater from the roof, gutters, downspouts, and related improvements of each Attached Dwelling in accordance with the stormwater and drainage plans established by Declarant as a part of the original construction of improvements on the Attached Product Lots.

12.2. General Rules of Law to Apply.

Each, if any, wall, gate, fence, or similar structure built as a part of the original construction on the Lots that serves or separates any two adjoining Lots shall constitute a party structure. To the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of this Declaration, 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 XIII.

12.3. Maintenance; Damage; and Destruction.

Except to the extent that responsibility for maintenance or repair of a party structure is otherwise assigned to or assumed by the Association pursuant to this Declaration, any applicable Supplemental Declaration, or written agreement, if maintenance or repairs to a party structure are necessitated by the conduct of the Owners, occupants, or guests of only one of the Lots that share such party structure, then the Owner of such Lot shall be responsible for the necessary maintenance or repairs. 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, her, or their Lot(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.

12.4. Indemnification.

Each Owner of an Attached Product Lot shall indemnify and hold harmless any Owner of an Attached Product Lot that shares a common wall from and against all claims, liabilities, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs) relating to accidents, injuries, loss, or damage of or to any person or property arising from the negligent, intentional, or willful acts or omissions of such Owner and its respective contractors, employees, agents, or others acting on behalf of such Owner in the exercise of the rights to use and maintain the common wall.

PART SIX: RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY

The success of the Courtyards at West Cary 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 XIII Dispute Resolution and Limitation on Litigation

13.1. 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 the Courtyards at West Cary 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 13.2 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 the following:

- (i) the interpretation, application, or enforcement of the Governing Documents;
- (ii) the rights, obligations, and duties of any Bound Party under the Governing Documents;
- (iii) the design or construction of improvements within the Courtyards at West Cary, other than matters of aesthetic judgment under Article IV, which shall not be subject to review; or
- (iv) Preparation of the Association budget, including the initial budget, estimation of the Common Expenses and the reserve fund for repair and replacement of capital items, if any, and the calculation of the General Assessments, Special Assessments, and Specific Assessments.

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 13.2:

- (i) any suit by the Association to collect assessments or other amounts due from any Owner;
- (ii) 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 any suit by the Association to enforce the Governing Documents if the Association has already complied with the notice and hearing procedures set forth in the By-Laws;

(iii) 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;

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

(v) any suit as to which any applicable statute of limitations would expire within 180 days of giving the Notice required by Section 13.2(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; and

(vi) any suit by the Association or the Declarant 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 and Declarant's ability to enforce the provisions of Article XV of this Declaration related to changes in ownership of Lots.

13.2. Dispute Resolution Procedures.

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

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

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

(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.

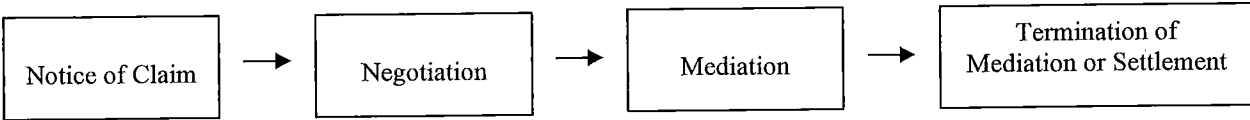
(c) Mediation. If the parties have not resolved the Claim through negotiation within 30 days of the date of the notice described in Section 13.2(a) (or within such other period as the parties may agree upon), the Claimant shall have 30 additional days to submit the Claim to mediation with an entity designated by the Association (if the Association is not a party to the Claim) or to an independent agency providing dispute resolution services in the Cary or Raleigh, North Carolina metropolitan area. The mediator shall notify the parties in writing of the date, time and location of the mediation, which shall be within 25 days after the mediator receives the written request from the Claimant. The provisions of N.C.G.S. 7A-38.3F(d), (h), and (i) shall apply to any mediation hereunder.

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 non-complying 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.

13.3. 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;
- (b) initiated to enforce the provisions of the Governing Documents, including collection of assessments and foreclosure of liens;
- (c) initiated to challenge ad valorem taxation or condemnation proceedings;
- (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 XIV **Mortgagee Provisions**

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

14.1. Notices of Delinquency.

Upon written request of an institutional holder, insurer, or guarantor of a first Mortgage ("**Mortgagee**") stating the name and address of such Mortgagee and the street address of the Lot to which its Mortgage relates, the Association shall provide a statement of any delinquency in the payment of assessments or charges owed for such Unit or any other violation of the Governing Documents relating to such Unit or the Owner or occupant thereof which has not been cured.

14.2. Right to Examine Books and Records.

Subject to the provisions of the Act, upon written request of any Mortgagee stating the name and address of such Mortgagee and the street address of the Lot to which its Mortgage relates, the Association shall provide the

Mortgagee with a copy of the Association's most recent financial statement and shall permit such Mortgagee or its agent to inspect the books and records of the Association during normal business hours, subject to the terms of the By-laws.

14.3. 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 Lot in the case of distribution to such Owner of insurance proceeds or condemnation awards for losses to or a taking of the Common Area.

14.4. Notice to Association.

Each Owner shall be obligated to furnish to the Association the name and address of the holder of any Mortgage encumbering such Owner's Lot.

14.5. Consent of Mortgagee.

All or a portion of the Community is currently encumbered by that certain Deed of Trust, With Absolute Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing Financing Statement recorded on June 25, 2021, in Book 18569, Page 776, as supplemented and modified via that certain Deed of Trust, With Absolute Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing Financing Statement recorded on September 8, 2022, in Book 19142, Page 1797, each in the Wake County Public Registry, executed and delivered by Declarant, as borrower to Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Deed of Trust"). A Consent and Subordination Agreement, executed by beneficiary Wells Fargo Bank, National Association under the Deed of Trust and consenting to the execution and recordation of this Declaration and the subordination of the lien of the Deed of Trust to the provisions of this Declaration is being recorded in the Wake County Public Registry contemporaneously with the recording of this Declaration.

PART SEVEN: CHANGES IN THE COMMUNITY

Communities such as the Courtyards at West Cary are dynamic and need the ability to monitor and adjust as circumstances, technology, needs and desires, and applicable laws change over time.

Article XV Changes in Ownership of Lots

15.1. Notice of Transfer.

Any Owner desiring to sell or otherwise transfer title to his or her Lot 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. If the purchaser or transferee of an entity, such information shall include identification of all other entities and individuals who directly or indirectly hold a ten percent (10%) or greater ownership or beneficial interest in such purchaser or transferee. 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.

15.2. Administrative Fee.

The Association may charge a reasonable administrative fee for preparation of a statement of unpaid assessments pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 47F-3-102(13) and may require that such fee be paid in advance.

Article XVI Changes in Common Area**16.1. 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" votes in the Association shall otherwise agree. Any such construction shall be in accordance with plans approved by the Board. The provisions of Section 7.3(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 16.3.

16.2. 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 16.3.

16.3. Mortgaging, Conveyance, or Dedication of Common Area.

The Association may dedicate portions of the Common Area to the Town of Cary or Wake 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 upon the written direction of Members entitled to cast at least 80% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association and, during the Development and Sale Period, upon request by the Declarant, the Association shall convey to Declarant all or portions of the Common Area for any purpose including adjusting the property line shared by Common Area and a Lot, except that no conveyance of Common Area shall reduce the total area comprising the Common Area below that required by applicable governmental authorities as a condition of development or subdivision approvals, and no sale or encumbrance of Common Area may deprive any Lot of rights of access or support. Nothing herein shall require membership approval for the Board to grant easements over the Common Area for public utilities or for other purposes which are not inconsistent with the use and enjoyment of the Common Area by the Owners for its intended purpose.

The proceeds from the sale or financing of Common Area shall be an asset of the Association to be used as the Board determines. No sale or encumbrance of Common Area may deprive any Lot of rights of access or support.

Article XVII Amendment of Declaration**17.1. By Declarant.**

In addition to specific amendment rights granted elsewhere in this Declaration, until termination of the Class "B" Control Period and termination of the Development and Sale Period, Declarant may unilaterally amend this Declaration for any purpose. Thereafter, 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 Lots; (c) enabling any institutional or governmental lender, purchaser, insurer, or guarantor of mortgage loans to make,

purchase, insure, or guarantee mortgage loans on the Lots; (d) complying with the requirements of any state or federal law or any local, state, or federal governmental agency; or (e) correcting factual errors or omissions. However, any unilateral amendment by Declarant pursuant to this Section shall not materially adversely affect the allocation of voting rights or assessment burdens among the Lots or title to any Lot unless the Owner shall consent in writing.

17.2. 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, 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.

17.3. 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 "Courtyards at West Cary" and "The Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc." and in the Grantor index under the name "Epcon West Cary, LLC."

17.4. 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 XVIII Termination of Declaration

This Declaration may be terminated only upon recording a termination agreement signed by the then Owners of at least 90% of the Lots. 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.

Article XIX Stormwater Operations and Maintenance Plan

The Association and Owners, and their successors and assigns, shall be required to fund and perform those certain inspection, operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement responsibilities, and assume certain expenses and liabilities, associated with the Community's stormwater control structures, including but not limited to the BMPs, and all elements of the BMPs, as outlined in that certain Stormwater Control Structure and Access Easement and Agreement recorded in Book 19186, Page 392 in the Wake County Public Registry (collectively "Stormwater Agreement"). During the Development and Sale Period, including subsequent to the recording of this

Declaration, Declarant shall have authority to unilaterally modify, amend, and supplement the Stormwater Agreement for any reason, including but not limited to, to expand the Association and Lot Owners' maintenance obligations. During the Development and Sale Period the Declarant shall also have authority to unilaterally enter into additional easements and agreements related to the engineering, construction, inspection, operation, maintenance, funding, and liability of additional stormwater control structures, or appurtenant improvements, located within or near, and serving, the Community.

[SIGNATURE AND NOTARY PAGES TO FOLLOW]

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Declarant has executed this Declaration as of the date first above written.

DECLARANT

EPCON WEST CARY, LLC,
a North Carolina limited liability company

CMS

By: *[Signature]*
Name: Joel D. Rhoades
Title Vice President

STATE OF Ohio

COUNTY OF Franklin

I certify that the following person personally appeared before me this day, acknowledging to me that he signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated therein and in the capacity indicated: Joel D. Rhoades.

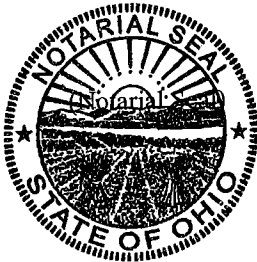
Date: 7th day of October, 2022

Notary Public: *[Signature]*

Printed Name: Christopher A. Buerkle

Christopher A. Buerkle, Attorney At Law
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF OHIO
My commission has no expiration date
Sec. 147.03 R.C.

My Commission Expires: NO Expiration Date



CONSENT AND SUBORDINATION OF MORTGAGEE

ATTACHED TO DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE COURTYARDS AT WEST CARY

DATED: 10/3, 2022

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Lender"), being the Beneficiary under that certain Deed of Trust, With Absolute Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing Financing Statement from Epcon West Cary, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company ("Declarant") to TRSTE, Inc., Trustee, recorded on June 25, 2021, in Book 18569, Page 777, as supplemented and modified via that certain Deed of Trust, With Absolute Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing Financing Statement recorded on September 8, 2022, in Book 19142, Page 1797, each in the Wake County Public Registry (collectively "Deed of Trust") consents to the recordation of the foregoing Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for the Courtyards at West Cary dated on or about the date hereof ("Declaration") and the imposition of the provisions thereof and the provisions of the North Carolina Planned Community Act to the real property described in Exhibit "A" of the Declaration. Lender does hereby consent to the subordination of the lien of the Deed of Trust to the provisions of the Declaration. The execution of this Consent and Subordination of Mortgagee by the Beneficiary shall not be deemed or construed to have the effect of creating between the Beneficiary and Declarant the relationship of partnership or of joint venture, nor shall it be deemed to impose upon the Beneficiary any of the liabilities, duties, or obligations of Declarant under the Declaration. Beneficiary executed this Consent and Subordination of Mortgagee solely for the purposes set forth above.

BENEFICIARY:

Wells Fargo Bank

By: Darci Morris
Name: Darci Morris
Title: Managing Director

STATE OF North Carolina
COUNTY OF Mecklenburg

I certify that the following person personally appeared before me this day, acknowledging to me that he/she signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated therein and in the capacity indicated:
MANAGING DIRECTOR
(insert name of individual in line above)

Date: 3rd day of Oct., 2022

Notary Public: Janet Garner
Printed Name: JANET GARNER

My Commission Expires: 3-27-2025

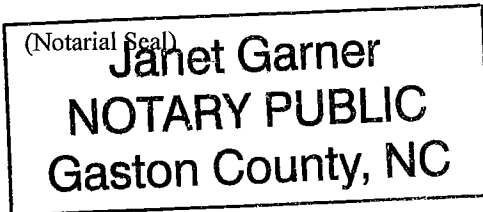


EXHIBIT A

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION
OF
LAND SUBJECT TO DECLARATION**

ALL THOSE TRACTS OR PARCELS OF LAND lying and being in Wake County, North Carolina identified in this Exhibit A as follows:

That certain real property and all interests therein consisting of all real property and any improvements thereon depicted on plats recorded in Plat Book BM2022 at Pages 01734-1738, inclusive, in the Wake County Public Registry, as more specifically described as the following: Lots 1 through 8, inclusive; Lot 10; Lots 17 through 23, inclusive; Lot 77; Lots 89 through 91, inclusive; Open Space 1 (1.296 acres); Open Space 2 (1.213 acres); and Community Gathering Area (0.925 acres).

EXHIBIT B

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION
OF
ADDITIONAL PROPERTY**

ALL THOSE TRACTS OR PARCELS OF LAND lying and being in Wake County, North Carolina identified in this Exhibit B as follows:

The tract of land conveyed to Epcon West Cary, LLC pursuant to that certain North Carolina General Warranty Deed recorded on June 25, 2021 in Book 18569 at Page 762, that certain North Carolina General Warranty Deed recorded on June 25, 2021 in Book 18569 at Page 771, and that certain North Carolina Non-Warranty Deed recorded on June 25, 2021 in Book 18569 at Page 767, each with the Wake County Register of Deeds Office (collectively "Tract"), and any real property situated within one (1) mile of the perimeter boundary of the Tract, less and except the real property described in Exhibit A.

Note to clerk and title examiners:

This Declaration is not intended to create an encumbrance on title to the property described on this Exhibit "B." Such title may be encumbered only with the consent of the owner by filing a Supplemental Declaration in accordance with Article IX.

EXHIBIT C

RESTRICTIONS AND RULES

The following restrictions shall apply to all of the Courtyards at West Cary 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 a sales office for any real estate broker retained by Declarant to assist in the sale of property described in Exhibits "A" and "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 the Courtyards at West Cary unless expressly authorized by, and then subject to such conditions as may be imposed by, the Board of Directors:

(a) 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 Lot or the Common Area. For purposes of this provision, "commercial vehicles" shall be defined as trucks or vans with commercial writing on their exteriors, vehicles primarily used or designed for a commercial purpose, vehicles with advertising signage attached or displayed on such vehicle's exterior, and vehicles with tools, ladders, and other materials used for a commercial purpose visible from the street, but shall not include official vehicles owned by governmental or quasi-governmental bodies;

(b) Raising, breeding, or keeping animals, livestock, or poultry of any kind, except that, as determined by the Board, a reasonable number of dogs, cats, or other usual and common household pets may be permitted in a Lot; however, those pets which are permitted to roam free, or, in the sole discretion of the Board, make objectionable noise, endanger the health or safety of, or constitute a nuisance or inconvenience to the occupants of other Lots 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. The Board may create additional rules and restrictions pertaining to the breed, behavior, and number of animals and pets permitted within a Lot;

(c) Any activity which emits foul or obnoxious odors outside the Lot 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 Lots (this paragraph shall not preclude normal and customary use of power tools, lawn mowers, and other yard maintenance equipment);

(d) 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;

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

(f) 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 Lots;

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

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

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

(j) 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 the Courtyards at West Cary, except that fertilizers may be applied to landscaping on Lots provided reasonable care is taken to minimize runoff;

(k) Accumulation of rubbish, trash, or garbage except between regular garbage pick-ups, and then only in approved containers which must either be stored in an enclosed garage or screened from view of adjacent property owners in a manner approved pursuant to Article IV, except on the day garbage is collected;

(l) Obstruction or rechanneling drainage flows after location and installation of drainage swales, storm sewers, or storm drains, except that Declarant, its designees, and the Association shall have such right, and Builders may alter drainage flow so long as the alteration does not adversely affect other Lots; provided, the exercise of such right shall not materially diminish the value of or unreasonably interfere with the use of any Lot without the Owner's consent;

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

(n) Conversion of any garage to finished space for use as an apartment or other integral part of the living area on any Lot 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;

(o) Use of any Lot for operation of a timesharing, fraction-sharing, or similar program whereby the right to exclusive use of the Lot 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 Lots which it owns;

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

(q) On-site storage of gasoline, heating, or other fuels, except that a reasonable amount of fuel may be stored on each Lot 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;

(r) 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;

(s) Any business, trade, or similar activity, except that an Owner or occupant residing in a Lot may conduct business activities within the Lot 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 Lot; (ii) the business activity conforms to all zoning requirements for the Courtyards at West Cary; (iii) the business activity does not involve door-to-door solicitation of residents of the Courtyards at West Cary; (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 the Courtyards at West Cary which is noticeably greater than that which is typical of Lots in which no business activity is being conducted; and (v) the business activity is consistent with the residential character of the Courtyards at West Cary and does not constitute a nuisance, or a hazardous, or offensive use, or threaten the security or safety of other residents of the Courtyards at West Cary as may be determined in the sole discretion of the Board;

(i) 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 Lot shall not be considered a business or trade within the meaning of this subsection, provided that no Owner or group of related or affiliated Owners (as the Board may determine) shall collectively lease or hold for lease more than one Lot at any time. 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 the Courtyards at West Cary or its use of any Lots which it owns within the Courtyards at West Cary including the operation of a timeshare or similar program.

(t) Any activity which would be in violation of the Zoning Plan; and

(u) Any construction, erection, placement, or modification of anything, permanently or temporarily, on the outside portions of the Lot, 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 and flags (except as otherwise provided in Section 3.4(c) and (d) and in Section 4.1), basketball hoops, swing sets and similar sports and play equipment, clotheslines, garbage cans, woodpiles, swimming pools, decks and patios other than those constructed by Declarant, docks, piers and similar structures, hedges, walls, dog runs, animal pens, fences of any kind other than those constructed by Declarant, satellite dishes, and antennas. Notwithstanding the foregoing:

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

(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.

(v) The installation or placement of solar collectors that are visible by a person on the ground:

(i) on the façade of a structure that faces areas open to common or public access;

(ii) on a roof surface that slopes downward toward the same areas open to common or public access that the façade of the structure faces; or

(iii) within the area set off by a line running across the façade of the structure extending to the property boundaries on either side of the façade, and those areas of common or public access faced by the structure.

(each, a “**Permitted Antenna**” and collectively, “**Permitted Antennas**”) shall be permitted on Lots subject to the following: (a) each Permitted Antenna shall be installed in a location that minimizes its obtrusiveness as viewed from streets and adjacent property; and (b) the Permitted Antenna shall only be as high as reasonably necessary to transmit and receive an acceptable quality signal; provided, however, that nothing contained herein requires installation in a location where an acceptable quality signal cannot be transmitted and received. A Permitted Antenna may be installed on the back or the back corner of a home without prior approval of the Association. In the event that the back or back corner of a home does not transmit and receive an acceptable quality signal, a Permitted Antenna may be installed on the side of the home with prior approval pursuant to Article IV of the Declaration. Any other location requires prior approval pursuant to Article IV of the Declaration and a demonstration that such alternative location is the only location suitable for satellite reception. It is the intent of this paragraph that the Association maintain architectural standards by making each Permitted Antenna as unobtrusive as possible, while ensuring that the Owner receives a quality satellite signal; it is not the intent of this paragraph to prohibit satellite dishes or the reception of satellite signal. Declarant and 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 the Courtyards at West Cary, 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 the Courtyards at West Cary:

(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 the Courtyards at West Cary;

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

(c) Sprinkler or irrigation systems or wells of any type which draw upon water from ground or surface waters within the Courtyards at West Cary, except that Declarant, its designees, and the Association shall have the right to draw water from such sources.

4. Leasing of Lots. "Leasing," for purposes of this Paragraph, is defined as regular, exclusive occupancy of a Lot 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. All leases shall be in writing. No Unit or part thereof shall be rented or used for transient or hotel purposes, which is defined as: (i) rental under which occupants are provided customary hotel services such as room service for food and beverages, maid service, the furnishing of laundry and linen, busboy service, and similar services; or (ii) rental to roomers or boarders, that is, rental to one or more persons of a portion of a Unit only. No lease may be for less than an entire Unit. No Unit may be rented for any period of less than thirty (30) days and the lease shall not have an initial term of less than six (6) month. Notice of any lease, together with such additional information as may be required by the Board, shall be given to the Board by the Lot Owner within ten (10) days of execution of the lease. The Owner must make available to the lessee copies of the Declaration, By-Laws, these Restrictions and Rules, and the Community Policies and Guidelines.

EXHIBIT D

BY-LAWS OF

THE COURTYARDS AT WEST CARY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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BY-LAWS
OF
THE COURTYARDS AT WEST CARY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Article I Name, Principal Office, and Definitions

1.1. Name.

The name of the corporation is The Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc. (“**Association**”).

1.2. Principal Office.

The principal office of the Association shall be located in Wake 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 The Courtyards at West Cary, executed and recorded by Epcon West Cary, LLC (with its successors and assigns, the “**Declarant**”) in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County, North Carolina (as it may be amended and supplemented from time to time, the “**Declaration**”). 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 rights of which shall vary by class to the extent provided in the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, and/or these By-Laws. The Declarant, by recording of the Declaration, and each Owner of a Lot, by accepting record title to the Lot or recordation of a contract of sale, is deemed to consent to membership in the Association. Membership shall be resigned or transferred only upon transfer of title to the Lot as provided in the Declaration. The provisions of the Declaration pertaining to membership and the designations, qualifications, rights, privileges, and obligations of each class of 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 and Regular 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 fourth quarter of the Association’s fiscal year, on such date and at such time and place as the Board

shall determine. In the Board's discretion, additional regular meetings of the membership may be held in accordance with a schedule for regular meetings published by the Board.

2.4. Special Meetings.

The President or any two members of the Board may call special meetings of the membership. In addition, the President or Secretary shall call a special meeting if so directed by resolution of the majority of the Board and within 30 days after receipt of a written request signed and dated by Members representing at least 10% of all votes entitled to be cast on any issue proposed to be considered, requesting that a special meeting be called and stating the purpose thereof. If the President or Secretary fails to comply with this requirement, then any Owner who signed the petition may call such meeting by giving notice to the Owner of each Unit in accordance with Section 2.5 and Section 9.5.

2.5. Notice of Meetings.

(a) At least 10 days (or at least 30 days if notice is mailed by other than first class, registered, or certified mail) but not more than 60 days before any membership meeting, the President, the Secretary, or other persons calling the meeting 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 and the items on the agenda for such meeting, including a description of the general nature of any proposed amendment to the Declaration or these By-Laws, any proposed budget changes, any proposal to remove a director, and any other matter to be put to a vote of the members. If proxies are permitted, the notice shall also state the procedures for appointing proxies. If the meeting is to be held solely by electronic communications or if participation in the meeting is permitted by electronic communications, as described in Section 2.11 below, the notice shall state the form of communications system to be used for the meeting and the means of accessing the communications system. 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.

(b) The Board may set a record date for determining who is entitled to receive notice of a meeting, which shall be no earlier than 70 days before the meeting date. If no record date is fixed by the Board, Members as of the close of business on the business day preceding the day on which notice is given or, if notice is waived, at the close of business on the business day preceding the day on which the meeting is held, are entitled to notice of the meeting and any person who is a Member on the date of such meeting and eligible to vote shall be entitled to vote on any matter coming before the Members for a vote.

If a record date is set, the Association shall prepare an alphabetical list of the names of all Members entitled to notice of the meeting, showing the address and number of votes each member is entitled to cast, and shall prepare on a current basis through the time of the membership meeting a list of members, if any, who are entitled to vote at the meeting, but not entitled to notice of the meeting. Beginning two business days after notice is given of the meeting for which the list was prepared and continuing through the meeting, the list of members shall be available at the Association's principal office or at a reasonable place identified in the meeting notice in the town or city where the meeting will be held, for inspection by any Member for the purpose of communication with other Members concerning the meeting. The Association shall make the list of Members available at the meeting. Any Member, personally or by or with his representatives, is entitled to inspect the list at any time during the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

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 and such waiver shall be filed with the minutes of the meeting in the Association's records. Attendance at a meeting by a Member shall be deemed waiver by such Member of notice of the time, date, and place thereof, unless the Member or the Member's proxy 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 is not present, a majority of the Members who are present or represented by proxy at such meeting may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than five nor more than 30 days from the time the original meeting was called to a different date, time, or place, and notice need not be given of the new date, time, or place, if announced at the meeting before adjournment. 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 or a new record date is set after adjournment, the Board shall provide notice of the time and place for reconvening the meeting in the manner prescribed for regular meetings in Section 2.5(a).

Members or their proxies 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 a sufficient number of Members to leave less than a quorum; however, at least a majority of the votes required to constitute a quorum, or such larger percentage as may be required under the Declaration, these By-Laws, or applicable law for specific actions, must approve any action taken. Provisions of the Declaration regarding voting by co-Owners are incorporated herein by this reference.

2.8. Voting.

Members shall have such voting rights as are set forth in the Declaration, which provisions are specifically incorporated by this reference. To the extent permitted by North Carolina law, a membership vote on any matter may be conducted at a meeting or by ballot cast by mail, facsimile transmission, or electronic message as provided in Section 2.12, or by any combination of those methods, as the Board determines appropriate. The Board shall establish voting procedures to provide reasonable assurance that the person casting the vote is the Member or the Member's proxy appointed pursuant to Section 2.9.

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 Lot 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. The Board may, in its discretion, accept proxies filed in person, by mail, by facsimile transmission, or electronically, provided they are signed and the Board has no reason to question the validity of the proxy. The Association shall have no obligation to recognize any proxy that is not actually received prior to the deadline established by the Board for delivery of proxies (which deadline may be earlier for proxies sent via mail, facsimile or electronic transmission). 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 unless otherwise specifically stated in the proxy and coupled with an interest which has not been extinguished. A proxy shall automatically terminate upon: (a) transfer of title to any Lot for which it was given; (b) receipt by the Secretary of written notice of revocation of a revocable proxy or of the death or judicially declared incompetence of the Member who signed the proxy; (c) attendance and voting by the Member at the meeting; or (d) 11 months from the date of the proxy, unless a shorter period is specified in the proxy, in which case the period specified in the proxy shall control, subject to termination due to other events specified in this paragraph.

2.10. Quorum.

Except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws or in the Declaration, the presence, in person or by proxy, of persons entitled to cast 10% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association shall constitute a quorum at all duly called meetings of the Association, and the casting of ballots representing at least 10% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association shall constitute a quorum for any membership vote conducted by other means pursuant to Section 2.12; provided, if a quorum is not represented at any meeting when originally called, then the quorum for any subsequent attempt to convene such meeting shall be reduced to 50% of the quorum required for the previous meeting. During the Class "B" Control Period and thereafter as long as there is a Class "B" Membership, the presence (or casting of a ballot pursuant to Section 2.12) by a representative of the Declarant shall also be necessary to establish a quorum.

2.11. Conduct of Meetings.

The President shall preside over all meetings of the Association. The Secretary shall ensure that minutes of the meetings are prepared which reflect the adopted resolutions and all other transactions which occurred at such meetings. The minutes shall be kept with the Association's books and records.

The Association may hold membership meetings and allow Members or their proxies to participate in any membership meeting by conference telephone or similar communications equipment or another suitable electronic communications system, including videoconferencing technology or the Internet, if the telephone or other equipment or system permits each person participating in the meeting to communicate with all other persons participating in the meeting. If voting is to take place at the meeting, the Association must implement measures to verify that every Member and proxy voting at the meeting by means of remote communication is sufficiently identified.

2.12. Action Without a Meeting; Voting by Written or Electronic Ballot.

(a) Any action that the North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act requires or permits to be taken at a meeting of the Members may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote, if all Members entitled to vote on such matter sign and submit a written consent or consents specifically authorizing the proposed action. Such consents shall be signed by the Member (or, if the Member is not an individual, by an authorized signatory of the Member), dated, and delivered to the Association within 60 days after receipt of the earliest dated consent. 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. Written notice of any action taken pursuant to this section shall be sent to all Members and such action shall be effective 10 days after such notice is sent.

(b) Alternatively, any action that may be taken at a membership meeting may be taken without a meeting if: (i) the Association delivers a written or electronic ballot to every Member entitled to vote on the action, setting forth the proposed action and providing an opportunity to approve or disapprove the proposed action; (ii) the number of votes cast by written or electronic ballot equals or exceeds the quorum required for a meeting to consider such action; and (iii) the number of votes cast in favor of the proposed action equals or exceeds the number of votes that would be required to approve the action at a meeting if the total number of votes cast at such meeting were the same as the number of votes cast by written or electronic ballot.

(c) Voting instructions or solicitation materials in connection with any vote for which ballots are permitted to be cast outside of a meeting must provide instructions for casting the ballot or returning the consent in order to be counted, indicate the number of responses needed to satisfy the quorum requirement, the percentage of votes necessary to approve any action other than election of directors, and a date and time thereafter by which the ballot must be cast or consent returned in order to be counted, which deadline shall be not more than 60 days. A written or electronic ballot or signed consent, once cast or received by the Association, may not be revoked. The Board shall notify the Members of the results of any vote conducted pursuant to this Section 12.2 within 10 days after the expiration of the voting period. A written ballot or written consent may be submitted to the Association by electronic mail transmission, provided that such ballot is accompanied by information indicating that the Member, Member's agent or Member's attorney-in-fact authorized its electronic transmission. Such consents and ballots (or in the case

of electronic balloting, a written record of the results of the balloting) shall be filed with the minutes of the membership and shall have the same force and effect as a vote of the Members at a meeting.

(d) Whenever the governing documents permit action to be taken by affirmative vote or written consent, a written consent or a written or electronic ballot received pursuant to either subsection (a) or subsection (b) above shall constitute written consent for purposes of such provision.

(e) Nothing in this Section shall authorize action without the approval of such persons or entities whose approval is specifically required for such action under the Governing Documents.

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 Declarant, directors shall be Owners or residents of Lots. A "resident" shall be any natural person 18 years of age or older whose principal residence is a Lot within the Courtyards at West Cary. No more than one eligible person from any Lot may serve on the Board at any time. If an Owner is a legal entity, any officer, director, or partner, or any other representative designated in writing by the Owner, shall be eligible to serve as a director unless the Owner otherwise specifies by written notice to the Association; provided, no Owner may have more than one such representative serving on the Board at a time, except in the case of directors appointed by the Declarant.

3.2. Number of Directors.

The Board shall consist of three to five 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. The Class "B" Member shall be entitled to set the number of directors and appoint, remove, and replace the members of the Board in its sole discretion until termination of the Class "B" Control Period.

(c) Directors After the Class "B" Control Period.

(i) Not later than 90 days after termination of the Class "B" Control Period, the President shall call for an election by which the Class "A" Members shall be entitled to elect all five directors. Three directors shall serve a term expiring at the second annual meeting following the six-month anniversary of their election and two 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	90 Days After Termination of Class "B" Control Period
Class B	Class A
Class B	Class A
Class B	Class A
	Class A
	Class A

Diagram 3.1 Transition of Control of Board

3.4. Nomination and Election Procedures after Class B Control Period.

(a) Nomination of Candidates. The Board may appoint a Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for election to any position on the Board to be filled by the votes of Class "A" Members. Any Nominating Committee shall consist of a chairman, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and two or more Class "A" Members or representatives of Class "A" Members who are legal entities. 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. Alternatively, or in addition, the Board may solicit nominations in writing from the Members. Nominations shall also be permitted from the floor at any meeting at which an election is held, or by write-in on any ballot, in case of an election pursuant to Section 2.12.

At least 30 days prior to each election, the Board shall notify the Members of the date of the upcoming election, the number of candidates to be elected by the Class "A" Members at such election, and the term for which they are to be elected. If the Board has appointed a Nominating Committee, the notice shall identify the members of the Nominating Committee by name, provide their address and other contact information, invite Members to make recommendations to the Nominating Committee of potential candidates for such election, and provide a deadline for submitting such recommendations. If the Board has not appointed a Nominating Committee, the notice shall solicit nominations from among the Members and specify the form for making nominations, the person and address to which they should be directed, and the deadline for submission. All candidates shall have a reasonable opportunity to communicate their qualifications to the Members and to solicit votes prior to the election.

(b) Election Procedures. For each election, voting shall be by written or electronic ballot. Each Class "A" Member may cast all vote(s) assigned to its Lot(s) for each position to be filled by Class "A" votes. Cumulative voting shall be permitted, provided that either the meeting notice states that cumulative voting will take place or the procedures set forth in N.C.G.S. §55A-7-25 are followed. 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. The Association shall publish the names and addresses of all directors and officers within 30 days after any election of directors.

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 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.

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 election of directors by the Class "A" Members, at which time the Class "A" Members may elect a successor for the remainder of the term.

Declarant, in its capacity as such, shall have no right unilaterally to remove or replace directors elected by the Class "A" Members (but may cast any Class "A" votes it holds for or against the removal of directors), and neither the Class "A" Members nor the Board shall have any right to remove or replace directors appointed by the Class "B" Member or the Declarant. The 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 the 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 four such meetings shall be held during each fiscal year with at least one per 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 of the directors then in office.

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 electronic communication shall be delivered or transmitted at least 48 hours before the time set for the meeting.

(b) To the extent practical, the Board shall communicate the date, time, and place of regularly scheduled Board meetings by publication in a community newsletter, on a community website, or by electronic mail or other means reasonably designed to make such information available to the Members.

(c) 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.

(a) 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.

(b) A meeting of the Board, or of any committee designated by the Board, may be held by means of a "virtual" or remote electronic communications system, including videoconferencing technology or the Internet, but only if (i) each person entitled to participate in the meeting consents to the meeting being held by means of that system; and (ii) the system permits each person participating in the meeting to communicate concurrently with each other participant.

(c) Participation in a meeting pursuant to this section shall constitute presence in person at such meeting.

3.11. Quorum of Board; Voting.

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 or by North Carolina law.

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 five 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.

Board members may not vote by proxy. Voting may be conducted at a meeting or by written consents without a meeting in accordance with Section 3.14.

3.12. Conduct of Meetings.

The President shall preside over all meetings of the Board and the Secretary shall ensure that minutes are recorded in a minute book and that a record is made of all Board resolutions, and all transactions and proceedings occurring at such meetings.

3.13. Open Meetings; Executive Session.

(a) Board meetings shall be open to all Members. The Board shall provide Members an opportunity during a portion of each Board meeting to speak to the Board about their issues and concerns. The Board may place reasonable restrictions on the number of persons who may speak on each side of an issue and reasonable time restrictions on the persons who speak.

(b) In any Board meeting, upon motion and affirmative vote of the Board, the Board may adjourn and reconvene in executive session, restricting attendance to directors and such attorneys, contractors, or other persons as the Board may specifically invite to discuss matters of a sensitive nature, such as pending or threatened litigation, personnel matters and such other matters as the North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act may specifically authorize.

3.14. 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 all of the directors sign a written consent or consents, setting forth the action so taken. Such consent(s) shall have the same force and effect as though taken at a meeting of the directors. Consents may be filed electronically in accordance with Section 2.12.

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;

(b) levying and collecting such assessments from the Owners;

(c) providing for the operation, care, upkeep, and maintenance of the Area of Common Responsibility consistent with the Community-Wide Standard;

(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;

(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;

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

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

(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;

(i) determining when action to enforce the Governing Documents is appropriate and the nature of any sanctions to be imposed 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;

(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;

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

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

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

(n) permitting utility suppliers to use portions of the Common Area reasonably necessary to the ongoing development or operation of the Courtyards at West Cary;

(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.

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 as it shall deem desirable including one or more Assistant Secretaries and one or more Assistant Treasurers. Such officers will have the authority and will perform the 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. The Association shall give or publish notice to the Members of the names and addresses of all officers within 30 days after any election of directors or any change in officers of the Association.

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 Secretary shall be responsible for preparation of minutes of the

directors' and members' meetings and for authenticating records of the Association. The Treasurer shall receive and deposit in appropriate bank accounts all monies of the Association and shall disburse such funds as directed by resolution of the Board, shall sign all checks and promissory notes of the Association, shall keep proper books of account. 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 Members who are neither officers nor directors of the Association, nor the spouse, parent, sibling, or child of any officer, director or employee. 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. The Covenants Committee shall have no responsibility for seeking out violations of the Governing Documents.

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, and 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 good faith, in a manner that the director or officer believes 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.

The officers, directors, and committee members of the Association shall not be liable for any mistake of judgment, negligent or otherwise, or for any action taken or omitted in such capacities, except for their own individual willful or wanton 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;
- (ii) intentional misconduct or knowing violation of the law;
- (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, as a Common Expense, 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. The Board may apply for and maintain, as a Common Expense, membership for the Association, its officers and directors, in the Community Associations Institute or any similar nonprofit organization that provides educational opportunities for community association directors, officers and managers in operation and management of community associations.

6.6. Conflicts of Interest.

Unless otherwise approved by a majority of the other directors, no director may transact business with the Association or any Association contractor during his or her term as director or within two years after the term expires. A director shall promptly disclose to the Board any relationship that the director may have, financial or otherwise, with any contractor doing business or proposing to do business with the Association and any actual or potential conflict of interest affecting the director relative to his or her performance as a director.

Except as provided in Section 7.1, no monetary payments or payments in the form of goods or services shall be made to any officer or director, or to any business, business associate, or relative of an officer or director, except pursuant to a contract for goods or services or a resolution authorizing reimbursement of expenses incurred

on behalf of the Association, in either case approved by a majority of the total number of directors, excluding any director to whom such payment is proposed to be made or whose business, business associate, or relative is proposed to receive such payment.

Nothing herein shall preclude directors appointed by the Declarant from being employed by or otherwise transacting business with the Declarant or its affiliates, or preclude the Declarant from transacting business with the Association or its contractors, notwithstanding the fact that the Board may include directors appointed by the Declarant.

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 and, during the Development and Sale Period, the written consent of the Declarant. 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 directors 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 Declarant to Disapprove Actions.

So long as the Class "B" membership exists, the Declarant 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 or the Declarant, 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 the Courtyards at West Cary, or diminish the level of services being provided by the Association. The Board shall not implement any action, policy, or program subject to the right of disapproval set forth herein unless and until the requirements of this Section have been met.

(a) Notice. The Declarant shall be given written notice of all meetings and proposed actions approved at meetings (or by written consent in lieu of a meeting) of the Association, the Board or any committee. Such notice shall be given by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal delivery at the address 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 Declarant shall be given the opportunity at any such meeting to join in or to have its representatives or agents join in discussion from the floor of any prospective action, policy, or program which would be subject to the right of disapproval set forth herein.

The Declarant or its representatives or agents shall make their concerns, thoughts, and suggestions known to the Board and the members of the subject committee. The Declarant, 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 Declarant shall not use its right to disapprove to reduce the level of services which the Association is obligated to provide or to prevent capital repairs or any expenditure or other action 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.

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 value received by the managing agent 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;

(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 Lot 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;

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

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

(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) An annual report consisting of at least the following shall be made available to all Members 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, by an independent public accountant; provided, upon a vote of the majority of the Board, or upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the Owners present and voting in person or by proxy at

any annual meeting or any special meeting duly called for that purpose, the Association shall provide an audited financial statement.

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 such approval as may be required under Article XVI 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 the Courtyards at West Cary. 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 unrelated officers or by such other person or persons as the Board may designate by resolution and subject to any limitations set forth in such 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, by certified mail, return receipt requested, (a) describing the alleged violation or property damage which is the basis of the proposed sanction or amount due to the Association, as applicable; (b) describing the proposed sanction to be imposed; (c) informing the alleged violator that he or she has 10 days after receipt of the notice to 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) if the alleged violator fails to respond to the notice within the 10-day period, the Board may impose the proposed sanction. If the hearing is to be held before a Covenants Committee, the notice shall also state that the alleged violator has the right to appeal the decision of the Covenants Committee to the Board.

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. Such waiver shall not constitute a waiver of the right to sanction future violations of the same or other provisions and rules by any Person.

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 within 30 days after receipt of the alleged violator's request. Either the Board or the alleged violator may request a postponement of up to 10 days and such postponement shall be granted. Additional postponements may be granted upon agreement of both the Association and the alleged violator. The Board shall notify the alleged violator at least 10 days prior to the hearing of the time, date, and place of the hearing. At the hearing, the alleged violator shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard and shall be entitled to make an audio recording of the hearing. 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. Written notice of the decision shall be mailed to the violator within three days after the hearing.

8.3. Appeal.

If a hearing is held 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 date of the Covenants Committee's decision.

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 or otherwise stated herein, *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) Maintenance of Books and Records. The Association shall maintain the following books and records, either in written form or in a form capable of conversion into written form within a reasonable time: appropriate accounting records; minutes of all meetings of the Members and the Board; a record of all actions taken by the Members and the Board without a meeting; a record of all actions taken by any committees appointed by the Board; a membership roster reflecting the name and mailing address of all members, in alphabetical order by class, along with the address of each Unit owned by the Member and the number of votes allocated to each Member's Unit(s).

The Association shall maintain at its principal office copies of the following documents:

- (i) its Articles and By-laws, and all amendments currently in effect;
- (ii) Board resolutions relating to the rights, limitations, and obligations of Members;

(iii) the minutes of all Membership meetings records of all actions approved by the Members for the three most recent years;

(iv) all written communications directed to the Members generally during the preceding three years;

(v) copies of the financial statements for the three most recent years;

(vi) a list of the names and business or home addresses of its current directors and officers; and

(vii) its most recent annual report filed with the Secretary of State.

(b) **Turnover of Books and Records.** Within 60 days after termination of the Class "B" Control Period, the Declarant shall deliver to the Association all property, books, and records of the Association in the Declarant's possession.

(c) **Inspection by Members and Mortgagees.** Within five days after receipt of a written request to inspect the Association's books and records the Board shall make available for inspection and copying by any Member, any holder, insurer or guarantor of a first Mortgage on a Lot, or the duly appointed representative of any of the foregoing at such reasonable time and location as the Board may specify, any of the books and records listed in subsection (a) of this Section and specified in such written request, provided that a Member shall only be entitled to inspect the books and records enumerated in the above clauses (i) through (vii) if the following are true: (i) the Member's demand is made in good faith and for a proper purpose; (ii) the Member describes with reasonable particularity the purpose and the records the Member desires to inspect; and (iii) the records are directly connected with said purpose.

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

(i) notice to be given to the custodian of the records;

(ii) hours and days of the week when such an inspection may be made; and

(iii) payment of the cost of reproducing documents requested.

(e) **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 Lot 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; or

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

9.6. Amendment.

(a) By Board. Until termination of the Class "B" Control Period, the Board of Directors may amend these By-Laws for any reason upon majority vote of the Board and the written consent of the Declarant. Thereafter, the Board may unilaterally amend (i) to correct clerical, typographical or technical errors; (ii) to bring any provision into compliance comply with any applicable governmental statute, rule, regulation, or judicial determination; (iii) to comply with the requirements, standards, or guidelines of any institutional or governmental lender, purchaser, insurer, or guarantor of mortgage loans; or (iv) to satisfy the requirements of any local, state, or federal governmental agency.

(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 or their proxies representing 67% of the total Class "A" votes in the Association and, during the Development and Sale Period, the written consent of the Declarant. 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. 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.

[The Remainder of this Page Intentionally Left Blank]

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify:

That I am a duly elected and acting Member of the Board of Directors of The Courtyards at West Cary Homeowners Association, Inc., a North Carolina corporation;

That the foregoing By-Laws constitute the original By-Laws of said Association, as duly adopted by resolution of the Board of Directors thereof as of the 28TH day of SEPTEMBER 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said Association this 28TH day of SEPTEMBER, 2022.

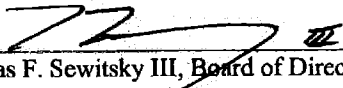
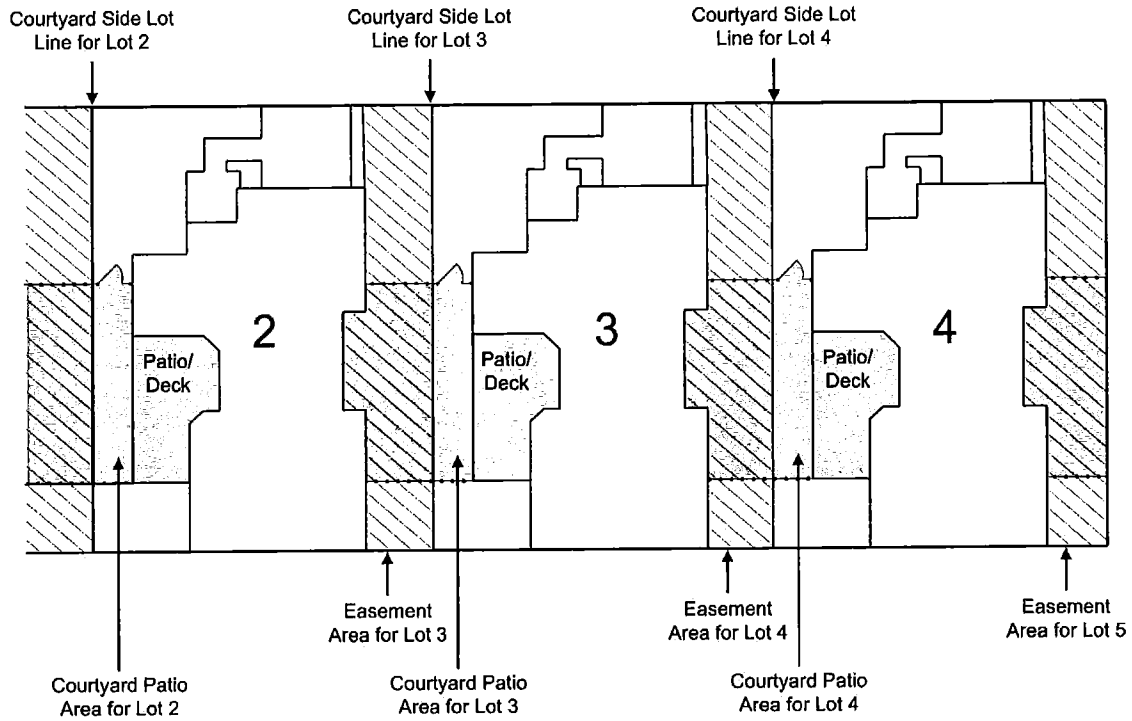
 _____ (seal)
Thomas F. Sewitsky III, Board of Directors Member

EXHIBIT "E"

Illustration of Typical Side Yard Easement Area (per Section 11.9)



KEY:

All hatched area (with and without shading) is Easement Area.

All shaded area (with and without hatching) is Courtyard Patio Area.

Areas that are hatched and shaded depict that portion of Easement Area within the Courtyard Patio Area.

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF WAKE****FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDMENT TO
DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR
THE COURTYARDS AT WEST CARY**

THIS FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDMENT TO DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE COURTYARDS AT WEST CARY ("First Supplemental and Amendment to Declaration") is made and entered into as of the 17th day of April, 2023, by **EPCON WEST CARY, LLC**, a North Carolina limited liability company ("Declarant").

The original Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for the Courtyards at West Cary ("Declaration") was recorded in Book 19188 at Page 2184 of the Wake County Public Registry ("Public Registry"). The Declaration imposes certain covenants, conditions, and restrictions upon certain real property as described therein ("Property"). Article IX of the Declaration provides that Declarant may annex any portion of the Additional Property, subject any portion of the Additional Property to the jurisdiction of the Association, and Article IX and Article XVII of the Declaration provides that Declarant may provide additional covenants, easements, and other provisions to the Property, including the herein annexed portion of the Additional Property. Declarant owns certain real property shown on that map entitled "Master Subdivision Plat The Courtyards at West Cary – Phases 2 & 3 for Epcon West Cary, LLC" recorded in Book BM2023, Page 597 of the Public Registry (such map is hereinafter referred to as the "First Supplemental Property Map," and the real property shown on the First Supplemental Property Map depicted as follows: Lots 9, 11–16, 24–76, and 78–88, Common Area #1 (5.116 acres), Common Area #2 (2.779 acres), Common Area #3 (6.598 acres), Common Area #4 (0.032 acres), Open Space #3 (0.141 acres), and Open Space #4 (0.698 acres) hereinafter collectively referred to as the "First Supplemental Property"). The First Supplemental Property is a portion of the Additional Property. Declarant desires to supplement the Declaration to annex the First Supplemental Property to the terms and scheme of the Declaration, to subject the First Supplemental Property to the jurisdiction of the Association, and to amend the Declaration as more particularly described below.

Prepared by and after recording mail to:
Epcon West Cary, LLC
500 Stonehenge Parkway
Dublin, Ohio 43017

submitted electronically by "Weatherspoon & Voltz LLP"
in compliance with North Carolina statutes governing recordable documents
and the terms of the submitter agreement with the Wake County Register of Deeds.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IX and Article XVII of the Declaration, Declarant, by this First Supplemental and Amendment to Declaration, does hereby supplement and amend the Declaration as follows:

1. First Supplemental Property. In accordance with Article IX of the Declaration, Declarant does hereby declare that the First Supplemental Property is annexed into the Declaration, and subjected to the jurisdiction of the Association, and shall hereafter be held, used, transferred, mortgaged, sold, conveyed, and occupied subject to the Declaration and the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, charges, and liens set forth in the Declaration (as same may further be amended or supplemented herein and from time-to-time), all of which shall run with the title to the First Supplemental Property and be binding upon all parties owning any right, title, or interest in and to such First Supplemental Property or any part thereof, and shall inure to the benefit of each owner thereof.

2. Common Area. The definition of "Common Area" set forth in Section 2.1 of the Declaration is hereby supplemented to include the areas shown as Common Area #1 (5.116 acres), Common Area #2 (2.779 acres), Common Area #3 (6.598 acres), Common Area #4 (0.032 acres), Open Space 3 (0.141 acres), and Open Space 4 (0.698 acres) on the First Supplemental Property Map.

3. Lots. The definition of "Lot" set forth in Section 2.1 of the Declaration is hereby supplemented to include Lots 9, 11–16, 24–76, and 78–88 on the First Supplemental Property Map.

4. Supplemental Declaration. The definition of "Supplemental Declaration" set forth in Section 2.1 of the Declaration is hereby supplemented to include this First Supplemental and Amendment to Declaration.

5. Miscellaneous. All terms spelled in this First Supplemental and Amendment to Declaration with initial capital letters shall have the meanings given to them in the Declaration. All covenants, conditions, restrictions, and easements established by and contained in the Declaration are hereby ratified and shall remain in full force and effect, as amended hereby. If any court should determine that any provision of the Declaration, as amended hereto, 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. To the extent of any conflict between the terms in this First Supplemental and Amendment to Declaration and the Declaration, the provisions of this First Supplemental and Amendment to Declaration shall control.

[SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW]

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Declarant has caused this First Supplemental and Amendment to Declaration to be executed on the day and year first above written.

DECLARANT

Epcon West Cary, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company

JDR

By: *Joel D. Rhoades* (SEAL)
Name: Joel D. Rhoades
Title: CEO and Authorized Signatory

STATE OF Ohio
COUNTY OF Franklin

I certify that the following person personally appeared before me this day, acknowledging to me that he/she signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated therein and in the capacity indicated:

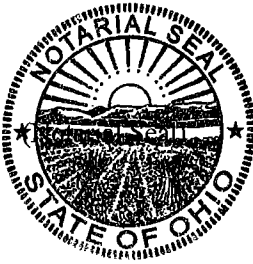
Joel D. Rhoades, CEO

Date: 17th day of April, 2023.

Notary Public: *Christopher A. Buerkle*

Printed Name: Christopher A. Buerkle

My Commission Expires: No Expiration Date



Christopher A. Buerkle, Attorney At Law
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF OHIO
My commission has no expiration date
Sec. 147.03 R.C.

**Consent and Subordination of Mortgagee
Attached to First Supplemental and Amendment to
Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions
for
The Courtyards at West Cary
Dated: April 17, 2023**

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Lender") being the Beneficiary under that certain Deed of Trust with Absolute Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing Financing Statement from **Epcor West Cary, LLC**, a North Carolina limited liability company, ("Declarant") to **TRSTE, Inc.**, as Trustee, recorded on June 25, 2021 in Book 18569, Page 776, as modified via that certain Modification of Deed of Trust with Absolute Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing Financing Statement recorded on March 27, 2023 in Book 19293, Page 88, each in the Wake County, North Carolina Register of Deeds ("Deed of Trust") consents to the recordation of the foregoing First Supplemental and Amendment to Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for the Courtyards at West Cary dated on or about the date hereof ("First Supplemental") and the imposition of the provisions thereof and the provisions of the North Carolina Planned Community Act to the real property described in the First Supplemental as the First Supplemental Property. Lender does hereby consent to the subordination of the lien of the Deed of Trust to the provisions of the First Supplemental. The execution of this Consent and Subordination of Mortgagee by the Beneficiary shall not be deemed or construed to have the effect of creating between the Beneficiary and Declarant the relationship of partnership or of joint venture, nor shall it be deemed to impose upon the Beneficiary any of the liabilities, duties, or obligations of Declarant under the Declaration. Beneficiary executed this Consent and Subordination of Mortgagee solely for the purposes set forth above.

BENEFICIARY:

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association

By: *CR*
Name: Christine Roew
Title: Vice President

STATE OF North Carolina
COUNTY OF Mecklenburg

I certify that the following person personally appeared before me this day, acknowledging to me that he/she signed the foregoing document for the purpose stated therein and in the capacity indicated:
Vice President

Date: 17th day of April, 2023.

Notary Public: *Gail D. Oates*
Printed Name: Gail D. Oates
My Commission Expires: 7/21/2025

(Notarial Seal)

