

9.5 Enforcement. The Association and the Declarant will have the right to enforce, by a proceeding at law or in equity, the Restrictions. The Association and/or the Declarant may initiate, defend, or intervene in any action brought to enforce any provision of the Restrictions. Such right of enforcement will include both damages for and injunctive relief against the breach of any provision hereof. Every act or omission whereby any provision of the Restrictions is violated, in whole or in part, is hereby declared to be a nuisance and may be enjoined or abated by any Owner of a Lot (at such Owner's own expense), Declarant or the Association. Any violation of any Applicable Law pertaining to the ownership, occupancy, or use of any portion of the Property is hereby declared to be a violation of this Declaration and subject to all of the enforcement procedures set forth herein. Failure to enforce any right, provision, covenant, or condition set forth in the Restrictions will not constitute a waiver of the right to enforce such right, provision, covenants or condition in the future. Failure of the Declarant or the Association to enforce the terms and provisions of the Restrictions shall in no event give rise to any claim or liability against the Declarant, the Association, or any of their partners, directors, officers, or agents.

9.6 Higher Authority. The terms and provisions of this Declaration are subordinate to Applicable Law. Generally, the terms and provisions of this Declaration are enforceable to the extent they do not violate or conflict with Applicable Law.

9.7 Severability. If any provision of this Declaration is held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity will not affect the validity of any other provision of this Declaration, or, to the extent permitted by Applicable Law, the validity of such provision as applied to any other person or entity.

9.8 Conflicts. If there is any conflict between the provisions of this Declaration, the Certificate, the Bylaws, or any Rules and Regulations adopted pursuant to the terms of such documents, the provisions of this Declaration, the Certificate, the Bylaws, and the Rules and Regulations, in such order, will govern.

9.9 Gender. Whenever the context so requires, all words herein in the male gender will be deemed to include the female or neuter gender, all singular words will include the plural, and all plural words will include the singular.

9.10 Acceptance by Owners. Each Owner of a Lot or other real property interest in the Property, by the acceptance of a deed of conveyance, or each subsequent purchaser, accepts the same subject to all terms, restrictions, conditions, covenants, reservations, easements, liens and charges, and the jurisdiction rights and powers created or reserved by this Declaration or to whom this Declaration is subject, and all rights, benefits and privileges of every character hereby granted, created, reserved or declared. Furthermore, each Owner agrees that no assignee or successor to Declarant hereunder will have any liability for any act or omission of Declarant which occurred prior to the effective date of any such succession or assignment. All impositions and obligations hereby imposed will constitute covenants running with the land

within the Property, and will bind any person having at any time any interest or estate in the Property, and will inure to the benefit of each Owner in like manner as though the provisions of this Declaration were recited and stipulated at length in each and every deed of conveyance.

9.11 Damage and Destruction. The Association shall undertake the following actions subsequent to damage or destruction to all or any part of the Common Area covered by insurance:

9.11.1 Claims. Promptly after damage or destruction by fire or other casualty to all or any part of the Common Area covered by insurance, the Board, or its duly authorized agent, will proceed with the filing and adjustment of all claims arising under such insurance and obtain reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair of the damage. Repair, as used in this *Section 9.11.1*, means repairing or restoring the Common Area to substantially the same condition as existed prior to the fire or other casualty.

9.11.2 Repair Obligations. Any damage to or destruction of the Common Area will be repaired unless a Majority of the Board decides within sixty (60) days after the casualty not to repair. If for any reason either the amount of the insurance proceeds to be paid as a result of such damage or destruction, or reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair, or both, are not made available to the Association within said period, then the period will be extended until such information will be made available.

9.11.3 Restoration. In the event that it should be determined by the Board that the damage or destruction of the Common Area will not be repaired and no alternative Improvements are authorized, then the affected portion of the Common Area will be restored to its natural state and maintained as an undeveloped portion of the Common Area by the Association in a neat and attractive condition.

9.11.4 Special Assessment. If insurance proceeds are paid to restore or repair any damaged or destroyed Common Area, and such proceeds are not sufficient to defray the cost of such repair or restoration, the Board may levy a Special Assessment, as provided in *Article 6*, against all Owners. Additional Assessments may be made in like manner at any time during or following the completion of any repair.

9.11.5 Proceeds Payable to Owners. In the event that any proceeds of insurance policies are paid to Owners as a result of any damage or destruction to any Common Area, such payments will be allocated based on Assessment Units and paid jointly to the Owners and the holders of Mortgages or deeds of trust on their Lots.

9.12 No Partition. Except as may be permitted in this Declaration or amendments thereto, no physical partition of the Common Area or any part thereof will be permitted, nor will any person acquiring any interest in the Property or any part thereof seek any such judicial partition unless the portion of the Property or Common Area in question has been removed from the provisions of this Declaration pursuant to *Section 11.4* below. This *Section 9.12* will not

be construed to prohibit the Board from acquiring and disposing of tangible personal property or from acquiring title to real property that may or may not be subject to this Declaration.

9.13 Notices. Any notice permitted or required to be given to any person by this Declaration will be in writing and may be delivered either personally or by mail, or as otherwise required by Applicable Law. If delivery is made by mail, it will be deemed to have been delivered on the third (3rd) day (other than a Sunday or legal holiday) after a copy of the same has been deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the person at the address given by such person to the Association for the purpose of service of notices. Such address may be changed from time to time by notice in writing given by such person to the Association.

9.14 View Impairment. Neither Declarant nor the Association guarantee or represent that any view over and across the Lots, or any open space or Common Area within the Property will be preserved without impairment. Neither the Declarant, the ACC, nor the Association shall have any obligation to relocate, prune, thin trees or perform other landscaping. The Association (with respect to any Common Area) will have the right to add trees and other landscaping from time to time, subject to Applicable Law. There shall be no express or implied easements for view purposes or for the passage of light and air.

9.15 Safety and Security. Each Owner and Resident of a Lot, and their respective guests and invitees, shall be responsible for their own personal safety and the security of their property within the Property and the Common Area. The Association may, but shall not be obligated to, maintain or support certain activities within the Property and the Common Area designed to promote or enhance the level of safety or security which each person provides for himself or herself and his or her property. However, neither the Association nor Declarant shall in any way be considered insurers or guarantors of safety or security within the Property or the Common Area, nor shall either be held liable for any loss or damage by reason of failure to provide adequate security or ineffectiveness of security measures undertaken. No representation or warranty is made that any systems or measures, including security monitoring systems or any mechanism or system for limiting access to the Property or the Common Area, cannot be compromised or circumvented; or that any such system or security measures undertaken will in all cases prevent loss or provide the detection or protection for which the system is designed or intended. Each Owner acknowledges, understands, and shall be responsible for informing any Residents of such Owner's Lot that the Association, its Board and committees, and the Declarant are not insurers or guarantors of security or safety and that each person within the Property assumes all risks of personal injury and loss or damage to the property, including any residences or Improvements constructed upon any Lot and the contents thereof, resulting from acts of third parties.

ARTICLE 10 EASEMENTS

10.1 Right of Ingress and Egress. Declarant, its agents, employees, designees, successors and assigns will have a right of ingress and egress over and the right of access to the Common Area to the extent necessary to use the Common Area and the right to such other temporary uses of the Common Area as may be required or reasonably desirable (as determined by Declarant in its sole discretion) in connection with the construction and development of the Property. The Property shall be subject to a perpetual non-exclusive easement for the installation and maintenance of, including the right to read meters, service or repair lines and equipment, and to do everything and anything necessary to properly maintain and furnish the Community Systems and the facilities pertinent and necessary to the same, which easement shall run in favor of Declarant. Declarant shall have the right, but not the obligation, to install and provide the Community Systems and to provide the services available through the Community Systems to any and all Lots within the Property. Neither the Association nor any Owner shall have any interest therein. Any or all of such services may be provided either directly through the Association and paid for as part of the Assessments or directly to Declarant, any affiliate of Declarant, or a third party, by the Owner who receives the services. The Community Systems shall be the property of Declarant unless transferred by Declarant, whereupon any proceeds of such transfer shall belong to Declarant. Declarant shall have the right but not the obligation to convey, transfer, sell or assign all or any portion of the Community Systems or all or any portion of the rights, duties or obligations with respect thereto, to the Association or to any person or entity. The rights of Declarant with respect to the Community Systems installed by Declarant and the services provided through such Community Systems are exclusive, and no other person or entity may provide such services through the Community Systems installed by Declarant without the prior written consent of Declarant. In recognition of the fact that interruptions in cable television and other Community Systems services will occur from time to time, no person or entity described above shall in any manner be liable, and no user of any Community System shall be entitled to any refund, rebate, discount or offset in applicable fees, for any interruption in Community Systems services, regardless of whether or not same is caused by reasons within the control of the then-provider of such services.

10.2 Reserved Easements. All dedications, limitations, restrictions and reservations shown on any Plat and all grants and dedications of easements, rights-of-way, restrictions and related rights made by Declarant or any third party prior to the Property becoming subject to this Declaration are incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Declaration for all purposes as if fully set forth herein, and will be construed as being adopted in each and every contract, deed or conveyance executed or to be executed by or on behalf of Declarant. Declarant reserves the right to relocate, make changes in, and additions to said easements, rights-of-way, dedications, limitations, reservations and grants for the purpose of most efficiently and economically developing the Property.

10.3 Utility Easements. Declarant, during the Development Period, and the Board thereafter, may grant easements over and across the Lots and Common Areas to the extent necessary or required to provide utilities to the Lots, Common Area and any other property owned by the Declarant; provided, however, that such easements do not unreasonably interfere with the use of any residence for residential purposes. A company or entity, public or private, furnishing utility service to the Property, is granted an easement over the Property, for ingress, egress, meter reading, installation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of utility lines and equipment, and to do anything else necessary to properly maintain and furnish utility service to the Property. Utilities may include, but are not limited to, water, sewer, trash removal, electricity, gas, telephone, electronic communications and internet, master or cable television and security.

10.4 Subdivision Entry and Fencing Easement. Declarant reserves for itself and the Association, an easement over and across the Property and any Common Area for the installation, maintenance, repair or replacement of certain subdivision entry facilities, walls, and/or fencing which serves the Property, the Common Area or any other property owned by the Declarant. Declarant will have the right, from time to time, to Record a written notice which identifies the subdivision entry facilities fencing to which the easement reserved hereunder applies. Declarant may designate all or any portion of the subdivision entry facilities as Common Area by Recorded written notice. The exercise of the easements reserved hereunder will not extend to permitting entry into any residence, nor will it unreasonably interfere with the use of any Lot or residence or Improvement constructed thereon.

10.5 Landscape and Monument Sign Easement. Declarant hereby reserves for itself and the Association, an easement over and across the Property and the Common Area for the installation, maintenance, repair or replacement of signs, landscaping, and/or monument signs which serve the Property, the Common Area or any other property owned by the Declarant. Declarant will have the right, from time to time, to Record a written notice, which identifies those portions of the Property, Common Area or property owned by the Declarant to which the easement reserved hereunder applies. Declarant may designate all or any portion of the easement areas reserved hereunder as Common Area. The exercise of the easements reserved hereunder will not extend to permitting entry into any residence, nor will it unreasonably interfere with the use of any Lot or residence or Improvement constructed thereon.

10.6 Easement to Inspect and Right to Correct. For a period of ten (10) years after the expiration of the Development Period, Declarant reserves for itself and for the Declarant's architect, engineer, other design professionals, builder and general contractor the right, but not the duty, to inspect, monitor, test, redesign, correct, and relocate any structure, Improvement, or condition that may exist on any portion of the Property, including the Lots, and a perpetual nonexclusive easement of access throughout the Property to the extent reasonably necessary to exercise this right. The party exercising such rights will promptly repair, at its sole expense, any damage resulting from the exercise of this right. By way of illustration but not limitation, relocation of mechanical or electrical facilities may be warranted by a change of circumstance,

imprecise siting of the original facilities, or the desire or necessity to comply more fully with Applicable Law. This *Section 10.6* may not be construed to create a duty for Declarant, the Association, or any architect, engineer, other design professionals, builder or general contractor, and may not be amended without Declarant's advanced written consent. In support of this reservation, each Owner, by accepting an interest in or title to a Lot, hereby grants to Declarant an easement of access and entry over, across, under, and through the Property, including without limitation, all Common Areas and the Owner's Lot and all Improvements thereon for the purposes contained in this *Section 10.6*.

10.7 Solar Equipment Easement. Declarant hereby reserves for itself and the Association, and their successors, assigns, and designees, a perpetual, nonexclusive easement over and across the Property for the installation, maintenance, repair or replacement of a rooftop solar electric generating system designed to deliver electric power to a particular residence built on a Lot or Common Area. Declarant will have the right, from time to time, to Record a written notice which identifies the solar equipment to which the easement reserved hereunder applies. Declarant will be entitled to unilaterally assign the easements reserved hereunder to any third party.

ARTICLE 11 DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

11.1 Development by Declarant. It is contemplated that the Property will be developed pursuant to a plan, which may, from time to time, be amended or modified. Declarant reserves the right, but will not be obligated, to pursue the development, construction and marketing of the Property, the right to direct the size, shape, and composition of the Property, the right to create and/or designate Lots and Common Areas and to subdivide all or any portion of the Property pursuant to the terms of this *Section 11.1*, subject to any limitations imposed on portions of the Property by any applicable Plat. These rights may be exercised with respect to any portions of the Property and the Common Area. As each area is developed or dedicated, Declarant may designate the use, classification and such additional covenants, conditions and restrictions as Declarant may deem appropriate for that area.

11.2 Special Declarant Rights. Notwithstanding any provision of this Declaration to the contrary, at all times, Declarant will have the right and privilege: (i) to erect and maintain advertising signs (illuminated or non-illuminated), sales flags, other sales devices and banners for the purpose of aiding the sale of Lots in the Property; (ii) to maintain Improvements upon Lots as sales, model, management, business and construction offices; and (iii) to maintain and locate construction trailers and construction tools and equipment within the Property and the Common Area. The construction, placement or maintenance of Improvements by Declarant will not be considered a nuisance, and Declarant hereby reserves the right and privilege for itself to conduct the activities enumerated in this *Section 11.2* until twenty-four (24) months after expiration or termination of the Development Period.

11.3 Addition of Land. Declarant may, at any time and from time to time, add additional lands to the Property. Upon the Recording of a notice of addition of land, such land will be considered part of the Property for purposes of this Declaration, and such added lands will be considered part of the Property subject to this Declaration and the terms, covenants, conditions, restrictions and obligations set forth in this Declaration, and the rights, privileges, duties and liabilities of the persons subject to this Declaration will be the same with respect to such added land as with respect to the lands originally covered by this Declaration. To add lands to the Property, Declarant will be required only to Record a notice of addition of land containing the following provisions:

- (i) A reference to this Declaration, which reference will state the document number or volume and initial page number wherein this Declaration is Recorded;
- (ii) A statement that such land will be considered Property for purposes of this Declaration, and that all of the terms, covenants, conditions, restrictions and obligations of this Declaration will apply to the added land; and
- (iii) A legal description of the added land.

11.4 Withdrawal of Land. Declarant may, at any time and from time to time, reduce or withdraw from the Property, and remove and exclude from the burden of this Declaration and the jurisdiction of the Association any portion of the Property. Upon any such withdrawal and removal this Declaration and the covenants, conditions, restrictions and obligations set forth herein will no longer apply to the portion of the Property withdrawn. To withdraw lands from the Property hereunder, Declarant will be required only to Record a notice of withdrawal of land containing the following provisions:

- (i) A reference to this Declaration, which reference will state the document number or volume and initial page number wherein this Declaration is recorded;
- (ii) A statement that the provisions of this Declaration will no longer apply to the withdrawn land; and
- (iii) A legal description of the withdrawn land.

11.5 Notice of Plat Recordation. Declarant may, at any time and from time to time, file a notice of plat recordation (a “**Notice of Plat Recordation**”). A Notice of Plat Recordation is Recorded for the purpose of more clearly identifying specific Lots subject to the terms and provisions of this Declaration after portions of the Property is made subject to a Plat. Unless otherwise provide in the Notice of Plat Recordation, portions of the Property included in the Plat identified in the Notice of Plat Recordation, but not shown as a residential Lot on such Plat, shall be automatically withdrawn from the terms and provisions of this Declaration (without

the necessity of complying with the withdrawal provisions set forth in *Section 11.4*). Declarant shall have no obligation to Record a Notice of Plat Recordation and failure to Record a Notice of Plat Recordation shall in no event remove any portion of the Property from the terms and provisions of this Declaration.

11.6 Assignment of Declarant's Rights. Notwithstanding any provision in this Declaration to the contrary, Declarant may, by written instrument, assign, in whole or in part, any of its privileges, exemptions, rights and duties under this Declaration to any person or entity and may permit the participation, in whole, in part, exclusively, or non-exclusively, by any other person or entity in any of its privileges, exemptions, rights and duties hereunder.

ARTICLE 12 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

This Article 12 is intended to encourage the resolution of disputes involving the Property. A dispute regarding the Lots, Common Area, and/or Improvements can create significant financial exposure for the Association and its Members, interfere with the resale and refinancing of Lots, and increase strife and tension among the Owners, the Board and the Association's management. Since disputes may have a direct effect on each Owner's use and enjoyment of their Lot and the Common Area, this Article 12 requires Owner transparency and participation in certain circumstances. Transparency means that the Owners are informed in advance about a dispute, the proposed arrangement between the Association and a law firm or attorney who will represent the Association in the dispute, and that each Owner will have an opportunity to participate in the decision-making process prior to initiating the dispute resolution process.

12.1 Introduction and Definitions. The Association, the Owners, Declarant, Homebuilders, and all persons subject to this Declaration, and each person not otherwise subject to this Declaration who agrees to submit to this *Article 12* by written instrument delivered to the Claimant, which may include, but is not limited to, a Homebuilder, a general contractor, sub-contractor, design professional, or other person who participated in the design or construction of Lots, Common Area or any Improvement within, serving or forming a part of the Property (individually, a "**Party**" and collectively, the "**Parties**") agree to encourage the amicable resolution of disputes involving the Property and the Common Area to avoid the emotional and financial costs of litigation and arbitration if at all possible. Accordingly, each Party hereby covenants and agrees that this Article applies to all Claims as hereafter defined. Notwithstanding anything contained in this *Article 12*, any Claim brought by an Owner related to a residence that is subject to a warranty agreement provided by the Declarant or Homebuilder will not be subject to this *Article 12* and will be governed by the warranty agreement, unless the Parties agree to have the dispute governed by this *Article 12*. This *Article 12* may only be amended with the prior written approval of the Declarant, the Association (acting through a Majority of the Board), and Owners holding 100% of the votes in

the Association. As used in this Article only, the following words, when capitalized, have the following specified meanings:

(i) **"Claim"** means:

(A) Claims relating to the rights and/or duties of Declarant, the Association, or the ACC, under the Restrictions.

(B) Claims relating to the acts or omissions of the Declarant, the Association or a Board member or officer of the Association during Declarant's control and administration of the Association, and any claim asserted against the ACC.

(C) Claims relating to the design or construction of the Common Area or any Improvements located within or on Common Area.

(ii) **"Claimant"** means any Party having a Claim against any other Party.

(iii) **"Respondent"** means any Party against which a Claim has been asserted by a Claimant.

12.2 Mandatory Procedures. Claimant may not initiate any proceeding before any judge, jury, arbitrator or any judicial or administrative tribunal seeking redress or resolution of its Claim until Claimant has complied with the procedures of this Article. As provided in *Section 12.8* below, a Claim must be resolved by binding arbitration.

12.3 Claim Affecting Common Areas. In accordance with *Section 4.13* of this Declaration, the Association does not have the power or right to institute, defend, intervene in, settle, or compromise litigation, arbitration or other proceedings: (i) in the name of or on behalf of any Lot Owner (whether one or more); or (ii) pertaining to a Claim, as defined in *Section 12.1* above, relating to the design or construction of Improvements on a Lot (whether one or more). Additionally, no Lot Owner shall have the power or right to institute, defend, intervene in, settle or compromise litigation, arbitration or other proceedings relating to the design or construction of the Common Area. Each Lot Owner, by accepting an interest in or to title to a Lot, hereby grants to the Association the exclusive right to institute, defend, intervene in, settle or compromise litigation, arbitration or other proceedings relating to the design or construction of the Common Area. In the event the Association asserts a Claim related to the Common Area, as a precondition to providing the Notice defined in *Section 12.5*, initiating the mandatory dispute resolution procedures set forth in this *Article 12*, or taking any other action to prosecute a Claim related to the Common Area, the Association must:

12.3.1 Obtain Owner Approval of Engagement.

The requirements related to Owner approval set forth in this Section 12.3.1 are intended to ensure that the Association and the Owners approve and are fully informed of the financial arrangements between the Association and a law firm or attorney engaged by the Association to prosecute a Claim relating to the design or construction of the Common Area. The engagement agreement between the Association and the law firm or attorney may include requirements that the Association pay costs, fees, and expenses to the law firm or attorney which will be paid through Assessments levied against Owners. The financial agreement between the Association and the law firm or attorney may also include obligations related to payment, and the conditions and circumstances when the payment obligations arise, if the relationship between the Association and the law firm or attorney is terminated or if the Association agrees to settle the Claim. In addition, the financial arrangement between the Association and the law firm or attorney may include additional costs, expenses, and interest charges. This financial obligation can be significant. The Board may not engage a law firm or attorney to prosecute a Claim relating to the design or construction of the Common Area or execute a written agreement between the Association and a law firm or attorney for the purpose of prosecuting a Claim relating to the design or construction of Common Area unless the law firm or attorney and the financial arrangements between the Association and the law firm or attorney are approved by the Owners in accordance with this Section 12.3.1.

Unless otherwise approved by Members holding eighty percent (80%) of the votes in the Association, the Association, acting through its Board, shall in no event have the authority to engage a law firm or attorney to prosecute a Claim relating to the design or construction of the Common Area if the agreement between the Association and law firm or attorney includes any provision or requirement that would obligate the Association to pay any costs, expenses, fees, or other charges to the law firm or attorney, including but not limited to, costs, expenses, fees, or other charges payable by the Association: (i) if the Association terminates the engagement with the law firm or attorney or engages another firm or third-party to assist with the Claim; (ii) if the Association agrees to settle the Claim for a cash payment or in exchange for repairs or remediation performed by the Respondent or any other third-party; (iii) if the Association agrees to pay interest on any costs or expenses incurred by the law firm or attorney; and/or (iv) for consultants, expert witnesses, and/or general contractors hired by the law firm or attorney. For avoidance of doubt, it is intended that Members holding eighty percent (80%) of the votes in the Association must approve the law firm and attorney who will prosecute the Claim and the written agreement between the Association and the law firm and/or attorney.

The approval of the Members required under this Section 12.3.1 must be obtained at a meeting of Members called in accordance with the Bylaws. The notice of Member meeting will be provided pursuant to the Bylaws but the notice must also include: (a) the name of the law firm and attorney; (b) a copy of the proposed written agreement between the Association and the law firm and/or attorney; (c) a narrative summary of the types of costs, expenses, fees, or other charges that may be required to be paid by the Association; (d) the conditions upon which

such types of costs, expenses, fees, or other charges are required to be paid by the Association; (e) an estimate of the costs, expenses, fees, or other charges that may be required to be paid by the Association if the conditions for payment occur, which estimate shall be expressed as a range for each type of cost, expense, fee, or other charge; and (f) a description of the process the law firm and/or attorney will use to evaluate the Claim and whether destructive testing will be required (i.e., the removal of all or portions of the Common Area or Improvements on the Property). If destructive testing will be required or is likely to occur, the notice shall include a description of the destructive testing, likely locations of the destructive testing, whether the Owner's use of their Lots or the Common Area will be affected by such testing, and if the destructive testing occurs the means or method the Association will use to repair the Common Area or Improvements affected by such testing and the estimated costs thereof. The notice required by this paragraph must be prepared and signed by a person other than the law firm or attorney who is a party to the proposed agreement being approved by the Members. In the event Members holding eighty percent (80%) of the votes in the Association approve the law firm and/or attorney who will prosecute the Claim and the written agreement between the Association and the law firm and/or attorney, the Board shall have the authority to engage the law firm and/or attorney and enter into the written agreement approved by the Members.

12.3.2 Provide Notice of the Inspection. As provided in Section 12.3.3 below, a Common Area Report is required which is a written inspection report issued by the Inspection Company. Before conducting an inspection that is required to be memorialized by the Common Area Report, the Association must have provided at least ten (10) days prior written notice of the date on which the inspection will occur to each Respondent which notice shall identify the Inspection Company preparing the Common Area Report, the specific Common Areas to be inspected, and the date and time the inspection will occur. Each Respondent may attend the inspection, personally or through an agent.

12.3.3 Obtain a Common Area Report.

The requirements related to the Common Area Report set forth in this Section 12.3.3 are intended to provide assurance to the Claimant, Respondent, and the Owners that the substance and conclusions of the Common Area Report and recommendations are not affected by influences that may compromise the professional judgement of the party preparing the Common Area Report, and to avoid circumstances which would create the appearance that the professional judgment of the party preparing the Common Area Report is compromised.

Obtain a written independent third-party report for the Common Area (the "**Common Area Report**") from a professional engineer licensed by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers with an office located in Collin County, Texas (the "**Inspection Company**"). The Common Area Report must include: (i) a description with photographs of the Common Area subject to the Claim; (ii) a description of the present physical condition of the Common Area subject to the Claim; (iii) a detailed description of any modifications, maintenance, or repairs to the Common Area performed by the Association or a third-party, including any Respondent;

and (iv) specific and detailed recommendations regarding remediation and/or repair of the Common Area subject to the Claim. For the purpose of subsection (iv) of the previous sentence, the specific and detailed recommendations must also include the specific process, procedure, materials, and/or improvements necessary and required to remediate and/or repair the deficient or defective condition identified in the Common Area Report and the estimated costs necessary to effect such remediation and/or repairs. The estimate of costs required by the previous sentence shall be obtained from third-party contractors with an office located in Collin County, Texas, and each such contractor providing the estimate must hold all necessary or required licenses from the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation or otherwise required by Applicable Law for the work to which the cost estimate relates.

The Common Area Report must be obtained by the Association. The Common Area Report will not satisfy the requirements of this Section and is not an “independent” report if: (a) the Inspection Company has an arrangement or other agreement to provide consulting and/or engineering services with the law firm or attorney that presently represents the Association or proposes to represent the Association; (b) the costs and expenses for preparation of the Common Area Report are not required to be paid directly by the Association to the Inspection Company at the time the Common Area Report is finalized and delivered to the Association; or (c) the law firm or attorney that presently represents the Association or proposes to represent the Association has agreed to reimburse (whether unconditional or conditional and based on the satisfaction of requirements set forth in the Association’s agreement with the law firm or attorney) the Association for the costs and expenses for preparation of the Common Area Report. For avoidance of doubt, an “independent” report means that the Association has independently contracted with the Inspection Company on an arms-length basis based on customary terms for the preparation of engineering reports and that the Association will directly pay for the report at the time the Common Area Report is finalized and delivered to the Association.

12.3.4 Provide a Copy of Common Area Report to all Respondents and Owners. Upon completion of the Common Area Report, and in any event no later than three (3) days after the Association has been provided a copy of the Common Area Report, the Association will provide a full and complete copy of the Common Area Report to each Respondent and to each Owner. The Association shall maintain a written record of each Respondent and Owner who was provided a copy of the Common Area Report which will include the date the report was provided. The Common Area Report shall be delivered to each Respondent by hand-delivery and to each Owner by mail.

12.3.5 Provide a Right to Cure Defects and/or Deficiencies Noted on Common Area Report. Commencing on the date the Common Area Report has been completed and continuing for a period of ninety (90) days thereafter, each Respondent shall have the right to: (i) inspect any condition identified in the Common Area Report; (ii) contact the Inspection Company for additional information necessary and required to clarify any information in the Common Area Report; and (iii) correct any condition identified in the Common Area Report.

As provided in *Section 10.6* of the Declaration, the Declarant has an easement throughout the Property for itself, and its successors, assigns, architects, engineers, other design professionals, each Homebuilder, other builders, and general contractors that may be utilized during such ninety (90) day period and any additional period needed thereafter to correct a condition identified in the Common Area Report.

12.3.6 Hold Owner Meeting and Obtain Approval. In addition to obtaining approval from Members for the terms of the attorney or law firm engagement agreement, the Association must obtain approval from Members holding eighty percent (80%) of the votes in the Association to provide the Notice described in *Section 12.5*, initiate the mandatory dispute resolution procedures set forth in this *Article 12*, or take any other action to prosecute a Claim, which approval from Members must be obtained at a meeting of Members called in accordance with the Bylaws. The notice of meeting required hereunder will be provided pursuant to the Bylaws but the notice must also include: (i) the nature of the Claim, the relief sought, the anticipated duration of prosecuting the Claim, and the likelihood of success; (ii) a copy of the Common Area Report; (iii) a copy of any engagement letter between the Association and the law firm and/or attorney selected by the Association to assert or provide assistance with the Claim; (iv) a description of the attorney fees, consultant fees, expert witness fees, and court costs, whether incurred by the Association directly or for which the Association may be liable as a result of prosecuting the Claim; (v) a summary of the steps previously taken by the Association to resolve the Claim; (vi) a statement that initiating the lawsuit or arbitration proceeding to resolve the Claim may affect the market value, marketability, or refinancing of a Lot while the Claim is prosecuted; and (vii) a description of the manner in which the Association proposes to fund the cost of prosecuting the Claim. The notice required by this paragraph must be prepared and signed by a person who is not (a) the attorney who represents or will represent the Association in the Claim; (b) a member of the law firm of the attorney who represents or will represent the Association in the Claim; or (c) employed by or otherwise affiliated with the law firm of the attorney who represents or will represent the Association in the Claim. In the event Members approve providing the Notice described in *Section 12.5*, or taking any other action to prosecute a Claim, the Members holding a Majority of the votes in the Association, at a special meeting called in accordance with the Bylaws, may elect to discontinue prosecution or pursuit of the Claim.

12.3.7 Provide Officer Certification. Within ten (10) days after a vote of Members called pursuant to this *Article 12*, the secretary or another officer of the Association will provide to Declarant and any Respondent (if different than Declarant): (i) a true and correct copy of the meeting notice provided to Members, for the meeting at which such vote was taken; (ii) copies of the ballots cast at such meeting (whether in person, electronic, or by proxy); (iii) a certification, executed by the issuing officer of the Association that: (a) the information set forth in (i) and (ii) hereinabove is true and correct; (b) the meeting notice provided to Members was provided in accordance with this *Article 12*; and (c) the vote was held in accordance with the Bylaws and this *Article 12*.

12.4 Claim by Lot Owners. Pursuant to *Section 12.3* above, an Owner does not have the power or right to institute, defend, intervene in, settle or compromise litigation, arbitration or other proceedings relating to the design or construction of the Common Area. In the event that a court of competent jurisdiction or arbitrator determines that an Owner does have the power or right to institute, defend, intervene in, settle or compromise litigation, arbitration or other proceedings relating to the design or construction of the Common Area, such Owner shall be required, since a Claim affecting the Common Area could affect all Owners, as a precondition to providing the Notice defined in *Section 12.5*, initiating the mandatory dispute resolution procedures set forth in this *Article 12*, or taking any other action to prosecute a Claim, to comply with the requirements imposed by the Association in accordance with *Section 12.3.2* (Provide Notice of Inspection), *Section 12.3.3* (Obtain a Common Area Report), *Section 12.3.4* (Provide a Copy of Common Area Report to all Respondents and Owners), *Section 12.3.5* (Provide Right to Cure Defects and/or Deficiencies Noted on Common Area Report), *Section 12.3.6* (Owner Meeting and Approval), *Section 12.3.7* (Officer Certification), and *Section 12.5* (Notice). Additionally, class action proceedings are prohibited, and no Owner shall be entitled to prosecute, participate, initiate, or join any litigation, arbitration or other proceedings as a class member or class representative in any such proceedings under this Declaration.

12.5 Notice. Claimant must notify Respondent in writing of the Claim (the “**Notice**”), stating plainly and concisely: (i) the nature of the Claim, including date, time, location, persons involved, and Respondent’s role in the Claim; (ii) the basis of the Claim (i.e., the provision of the Restrictions or other authority out of which the Claim arises); (iii) what Claimant wants Respondent to do or not do to resolve the Claim; and (iv) that the Notice is given pursuant to this Section. For Claims governed by Chapter 27 of the Texas Property Code, the time period for negotiation in *Section 12.6* below, is equivalent to the sixty (60) day period under Section 27.004 of the Texas Property Code. If a Claim is subject to Chapter 27 of the Texas Property Code, the Claimant and Respondent are advised, in addition to compliance with *Section 12.6*, to comply with the terms and provisions of Section 27.004 of the Texas Property Code during such sixty (60) day period. *Section 12.6* does not modify or extend the time period set forth in Section 27.004 of the Texas Property Code. Failure to comply with the time periods or actions specified in Section 27.004 of the Texas Property Code could affect a Claim if the Claim is subject to Chapter 27 of the Texas Property Code. The one hundred and twenty (120) day period for mediation set forth in *Section 12.7* below, is intended to provide the Claimant and Respondent with sufficient time to resolve the Claim in the event resolution is not accomplished during negotiation. If the Claim is not resolved during negotiation, mediation pursuant to *Section 12.7* is required without regard to the monetary amount of the Claim.

If the Claimant is the Association, the Notice will also include: (a) if the Claim relates to the design or construction of the Common Area, a true and correct copy of the Common Area Report and any and all other reports, studies, analyses, and recommendations obtained by the Association related to the Common Area; (b) a copy of any engagement letter between the Association and the law firm and/or attorney selected by the Association to assert or provide

assistance with the Claim; (c) if the Claim relates to the design or construction of the Common Area, reasonable and credible evidence confirming that Members holding eighty percent (80%) of the votes in the Association approved the law firm and attorney and the written agreement between the Association and the law firm and/or attorney in accordance with *Section 12.3.1*; (d) a true and correct copy of the special meeting notice provided to Members in accordance with *Section 12.3.6* above; and (e) reasonable and credible evidence confirming that Members holding eighty percent (80%) of the votes in the Association approved providing the Notice. If the Claimant is not the Association and pertains to the Common Areas, the Notice will also include a true and correct copy of the Common Area Report.

12.6 Negotiation. Claimant and Respondent will make every reasonable effort to meet in person to resolve the Claim by good faith negotiation. Within sixty (60) days after Respondent's receipt of the Notice, Respondent and Claimant will meet at a mutually acceptable place and time to discuss the Claim. If the Claim involves all or any portion of the Property, then at such meeting or at some other mutually-agreeable time, Respondent and Respondent's representatives will have full access to the Property that is subject to the Claim for the purposes of inspecting the Property.

12.7 Mediation. If the parties negotiate, but do not resolve the Claim through negotiation within one-hundred twenty (120) days from the date of the Notice (or within such other period as may be agreed on by the parties), Claimant will have thirty (30) additional days within which to submit the Claim to mediation under the auspices of a mediation center or individual mediator on which the parties mutually agree. The mediator must have at least five (5) years of experience serving as a mediator and must have technical knowledge or expertise appropriate to the subject matter of the Claim. If Claimant does not submit the Claim to mediation within the 30-day period, Respondent will submit the Claim to mediation in accordance with this *Section 12.7*. If the Parties do not settle the Claim within thirty (30) days after submission to mediation, Respondent or Claimant may initiate arbitration proceedings in accordance with *Section 12.8*.

12.8 Binding Arbitration-Claims. All Claims must be settled by binding arbitration. Claimant or Respondent may, by summary proceedings (e.g., a plea in abatement or motion to stay further proceedings), bring an action in court to compel arbitration of any Claim not referred to arbitration as required by this *Section 12.8*.

12.8.1 Governing Rules. If a Claim has not been resolved after mediation in accordance with *Section 12.7*, the Claim will be resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the terms of this *Section 12.8* and the American Arbitration Association (the "AAA") Construction Industry Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures and, if applicable, the rules contained in the AAA Supplementary Procedures for Consumer Related Disputes, as each are supplemented or modified by the AAA (collectively, the Construction Industry Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures and AAA Supplementary Procedures for Consumer Related Disputes are referred to herein as the "AAA Rules"). In the event of any inconsistency between

the AAA Rules and this *Section 12.8*, this *Section 12.8* will control. Judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator shall be binding and not subject to appeal, but may be reduced to judgment or enforced in any court having jurisdiction. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary or any applicable rules for arbitration, any arbitration with respect to Claims arising hereunder shall be conducted by a panel of three (3) arbitrators, to be chosen as follows:

- (i) One arbitrator shall be selected by Respondent, in its sole and absolute discretion;
- (ii) One arbitrator shall be selected by the Claimant, in its sole and absolute discretion; and
- (iii) One arbitrator shall be selected by mutual agreement of the arbitrators having been selected by Respondent and the Claimant, in their sole and absolute discretion.

12.8.2 Exceptions to Arbitration; Preservation of Remedies. No provision of, nor the exercise of any rights under, this *Section 12.8* will limit the right of Claimant or Respondent, and Claimant and the Respondent will have the right during any Claim, to seek, use, and employ ancillary or preliminary remedies, judicial or otherwise, for the purposes of realizing upon, preserving, or protecting upon any property, real or personal, that is involved in a Claim, including, without limitation, rights and remedies relating to: (i) exercising self-help remedies (including set-off rights); or (ii) obtaining provisions or ancillary remedies such as injunctive relief, sequestration, attachment, garnishment, or the appointment of a receiver from a court having jurisdiction before, during, or after the pendency of any arbitration. The institution and maintenance of an action for judicial relief or pursuit of provisional or ancillary remedies or exercise of self-help remedies shall not constitute a waiver of the right of any party to submit the Claim to arbitration nor render inapplicable the compulsory arbitration provisions hereof.

12.8.3 Statute of Limitations. All statutes of limitation that would otherwise be applicable shall apply to any arbitration proceeding under this *Section 12.8*.

12.8.4 Scope of Award; Modification or Vacation of Award. The arbitrator shall resolve all Claims in accordance with Applicable Law. The arbitrator may grant any remedy or relief that the arbitrator deems just and equitable and within the scope of this *Section 12.8* and subject to *Section 12.9* below; provided, however, attorney's fees and costs may not be awarded by the arbitrator to either Claimant or Respondent. In addition, for a Claim, or any portion of a Claim governed by Chapter 27 of the Texas Property Code, or any successor statute, in no event shall the arbitrator award damages which exceed the damages a Claimant would be entitled to under Chapter 27 of the Texas Property Code, except that the arbitrator may not award attorney's fees and/or costs to their Claimant or Respondent. In all arbitration proceedings, the arbitrator shall make specific, written findings of fact and conclusions of law. In all arbitration proceedings the parties shall have the right to seek vacation or modification of any award that is

based in whole, or in part, on: (i) factual findings that have no legally or factually sufficient evidence, as those terms are defined in Texas law; (ii) conclusions of law that are erroneous; (iii) an error of Applicable Law; or (iv) a cause of action or remedy not expressly provided under Applicable Law. In no event may an arbitrator award speculative, special, exemplary, treble, or punitive damages for any Claim.

12.8.5 Other Matters. To the maximum extent practicable, an arbitration proceeding hereunder shall be concluded within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the filing of the Claim for arbitration. Arbitration proceedings hereunder shall be conducted in Collin County, Texas. Unless otherwise provided by this *Section 12.8*, the arbitrator shall be empowered to impose sanctions and to take such other actions as the arbitrator deems necessary to the same extent a judge could pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure and Applicable Law. Claimant and Respondent agree to keep all Claims and arbitration proceedings strictly confidential, except for disclosures of information required in the ordinary course of business of the parties or by Applicable Law. In no event shall Claimant or Respondent discuss with the news media or grant any interviews with the news media regarding a Claim or issue any press release regarding any Claim without the written consent of the other parties to the Claim.

12.9 Allocation of Costs. Notwithstanding any provision in this Declaration to the contrary, each Party bears all of its own costs incurred prior to and during the proceedings described in the Notice, Negotiation, Mediation, and Arbitration sections above, including its attorney's fees. Respondent and Claimant will equally divide all expenses and fees charged by the mediator and arbitrator.

12.10 General Provisions. A release or discharge of Respondent from liability to Claimant on account of the Claim does not release Respondent from liability to persons who are not party to Claimant's Claim.

12.11 Period of Limitation.

12.11.1 For Actions by an Owner or Resident. The exclusive period of limitation for any of the Parties to bring any Claim, shall be the earliest of: (i) for Claims alleging construction defect or defective design, two (2) years and one (1) day from the date that the Owner or Resident discovered or reasonably should have discovered evidence of the Claim; (ii) for Claims other than those alleging construction defect or defective design, four (4) years and one (1) day from the date that the Owner or Resident discovered or reasonably should have discovered evidence of the Claim; or (iii) the applicable statute of limitations for such Claim. In the event that a court of competent jurisdiction determines that an Owner does have the power or right to institute, defend, intervene in, settle or compromise litigation, arbitration or other proceedings relating to the design or construction of the Common Area, the exclusive period of limitation for a Claim of construction defect or defective design of the Common Areas, shall be the earliest of: (a) two (2) years and one (1) day from the date that the Owner or the Association

discovered or reasonably should have discovered evidence of the Claim; or (b) the applicable statute of limitations for such Claim. In no event shall this *Section 12.11.1* be interpreted to extend any period of limitations.

12.11.2 For Actions by the Association. The exclusive period of limitation for the Association to bring any Claim, including, but not limited to, a Claim of construction defect or defective design of the Common Areas, shall be the earliest of: (i) for Claims alleging construction defect or defective design, two (2) years and one (1) day from the date that the Association or its manager, board members, officers or agents discovered or reasonably should have discovered evidence of the Claim; (ii) for Claims other than those alleging construction defect or defective design of the Common Areas, four (4) years and one (1) day from the date that the Association or its manager, board members, officers or agents discovered or reasonably should have discovered evidence of the Claim; or (iii) the applicable statute of limitations for such Claim. In no event shall this *Section 12.11.2* be interpreted to extend any period of limitations.

12.12 Funding the Resolution of Claims. The Association must levy a Special Assessment to fund the estimated costs to resolve a Claim pursuant to this *Article 12*. The Association may not use its annual operating income or reserve funds to fund the costs to resolve a Claim unless the Association has previously established and funded a dispute resolution fund.

EXECUTED to be effective on the date this instrument is Recorded.

DECLARANT:

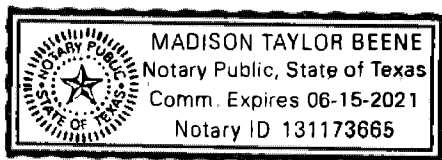
**LENNAR HOMES OF TEXAS LAND AND
CONSTRUCTION, LTD.,** a Texas limited partnership

By: U.S. Home Corporation, a Delaware corporation,
its General Partner

By: Jennifer Eller
Printed Name: Jennifer Eller
Title: Authorized Agent

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF Dallas §

This instrument was acknowledged before me this 10 day of March, 2021 by
Jennifer Eller, Auth Agent of U.S. Home Corporation, a
Delaware corporation, the General Partner of Lennar Homes of Texas Land and Construction,
Ltd., a Texas limited partnership, on behalf of said corporation and limited partnership.



(SEAL)

[Signature]
Notary Public Signature

EXHIBIT "A"

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

BEING a tract of land situated in the William W. Bell Survey, Abstract 37 all being within Collin County, Texas, and being a tract of land described in a deed to Chester Keith Callan, according to the document filed of record in Document No. 20060616000829910 Official Public Records, Collin County, Texas (O.P.R.C.C.T.), said tract being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a 1/2-inch iron rod found in the west right-of-way line of FM 982 for the northeast corner of this tract, same being common with the southeast corner of a called 25.824 acre tract of land conveyed to Boat Investments, LLC, according to the document filed of record in Document Number 20171012001368690 (O.P.R.C.C.T.) from which a 3/8-inch found bears North 0°42'27" East, 558.35 feet;

THENCE South 0°43'52" West, with said west right-of-way, a distance of 304.85 feet to a point for the southeast corner of this tract, same being common to the northeast corner of that tract of land conveyed to Wayne and Jennifer Yandell, according to the document filed of record in Document Number 20130321000378110 (O.P.R.C.C.T.) from which the southeast corner of said Yandell tract bears South 0°26'19" West, 257.60 feet, from said corner a 1/2-inch iron rod with cap found for reference bears North 66°11'53" West, 1.30 feet;

THENCE North 89°00'35" West, a distance of 2,010.42 feet to a point in a shallow creek for the southwest corner of this tract from which a 1/2-inch iron rod found for reference bears South 88°26'56" East, 39.98 feet;

THENCE North 32°24'33" East, with the centerline of the creek, a distance of 146.09 feet to a point for corner of this tract;

THENCE North 51°09'33" West, continuing along a portion of said creek then leaving said creek at a distance of approximately 76 feet, continuing for a total distance of 132.51 feet to a point for corner of this tract;

THENCE North 12°19'17" West, a distance of 84.80 feet to a point for corner of this tract;

THENCE North 33°20'08" East, a distance of 19.35 feet to a point for the northwest corner of this tract from which a 1/2-inch iron rod found for reference bears South 89°00'35" East, 61.75 feet;

THENCE South 89°00'35" East, a distance of 2,046.69 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING and containing 13.9998 acres or 609,831 square feet of land, more or less.



Filed and Recorded
Official Public Records
Stacey Kemp, County Clerk
Collin County, TEXAS
03/11/2021 02:50:26 PM
\$310.00 DKITZMILLER
20210311000487140

EXHIBIT "A"

BRANCH VILLAGE

DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS & RESTRICTIONS