

i.3. Governing Documents.

The Governing Documents may be supplemented by additional covenants, restrictions, and easements applicable to particular Phases within **LakeRidge Ranches**. Nothing in this Section shall preclude the Recording of a Supplemental Declaration or other instrument applicable to any portion of **LakeRidge Ranches** (with the consent of the Owner of such property) which contains additional restrictions or more restrictive provisions; provided, any such Recording is subject to Article 11, unless otherwise permitted by Article 12. The Association may, but shall not be required to, enforce any such covenants, restrictions, or other instruments, which are otherwise enforceable.

The Governing Documents shall apply to Owners as well as occupants of Lots and their respective tenants, guests, and invitees. Any lease of a Lot shall provide that the lessee and all occupants of the leased Lot shall be bound by the terms of the Governing Documents.

In the event of a conflict between Texas law, the Articles (of Incorporation), the Declaration, and the By-Laws, the provisions of Texas law, the Declaration, the Articles, and the By-Laws (in that order) shall prevail. In the event of a conflict between or among the Governing Documents and any additional covenants or restrictions, and/or the provisions of any other rules or policies governing any Phase, the Governing Documents shall control.

ARTICLE 1
DEFINITIONS

DEFINITIONS. The following words and phrases, whether or not capitalized, have specified meanings when used in the Governing Documents, unless a different meaning is apparent from the context in which the word or phrase is used.

- 1.1. “ACC” means Architectural Control Committee of the Association.
- 1.2. “ASSESSMENT” means any charge levied against a Lot or Owner by the Association, pursuant to the Governing Documents or State law.
- 1.3. “ASSOCIATION” means the association of Owners of all Lots in the Property, initially organized as The LakeRidge Ranches Homeowners Association, Inc., a Texas nonprofit corporation.
- 1.4. “BOARD” means the Board of Directors of the Association.
- 1.5. “BUILDER” means any homebuilder constructing the initial Residence upon a Lot in the normal course of conducting its business for profit.
- 1.6. “COUNTY” means Parker County, Texas, in which the Property is located.
- 1.7. “COMMON AREA(S)” or “COMMON PROPERTIES” means portions of the Property as described in or on the Plat that do not constitute Lots unless such Lot is designated as Common Area. Accordingly, the Common Area means those portions of the Property designated as such on the Plat, including any recreational centers, swimming pools, ponds, water features, parks, entry areas, gates, parking lots, landscaping, amenities or similar areas or features. The Common Areas also includes: (i) any areas within the Property owned by the County, the Association, or any other governmental entity, but which may

be maintained by the Association; (ii) any landscape, wall maintenance, pedestrian access or maintenance easements reflected on the Plat, required by the County or recorded by separate instrument; (iii) all streets within the Property and (iv) those areas, if any, which are owned by an Owner. Common Area shall also include all improvements on or to any portion of any of the areas described in the preceding sentence. Declarant shall at all times have and retain the right but without obligation whatsoever, to effect minor redesigns or reconfigurations of the Common Area and to execute any open space Declarations applicable to the Common Area which may be permitted in order to reduce property taxes, and to take whatever steps as may be appropriate to lawfully avoid or minimize the imposition of federal and state ad valorem and/or income taxes.

- 1.8. "DECLARANT" means **JRM Land & Cattle Co., LLC**, the developer of the Property, and/or the successors and assigns of **JRM Land & Cattle Co., LLC**, which acquire any portion of the Property for the purpose of development, and which are designated a Successor Declarant by **JRM Land & Cattle Co., LLC**, or by any such successor and assign, in a recorded document.
- 1.9. "DECLARANT CONTROL PERIOD" means that period of time, beginning the date this Declaration is recorded, during which Declarant controls the operation of the Association, pursuant to **Exhibit B** of this Declaration.
- 1.10. "DECLARATION" means this document, as it may be amended from time to time.
- 1.11. "DESIGN GUIDELINES" shall mean and refer to those particular standards, restrictions, guidelines, recommendations and specifications applicable to all aspects of construction, placement, location, alteration, maintenance and design of any improvements within the Property, and all amendments, modifications, supplements and interpretations thereof.
- 1.12. "DEVELOPMENT PERIOD" means the 20-year-period beginning the date this Declaration is recorded, during which the Property is being developed, constructed, or marketed. The Development Period terminates automatically when a dwelling is constructed and completed on every Lot in the Property. Declarant may terminate the Development Period at any time by recording a notice of termination.
- 1.13. "GOVERNING DOCUMENTS" means, singly or collectively as the case may be, this Declaration, and any applicable Supplemental Declaration, the Plat, the Bylaws, the Association's Articles of Incorporation, and the rules of the Association, as any of these may be amended from time to time. An appendix, exhibit, schedule, or certification accompanying a Governing Document is a part of that Governing Document.
- 1.14. "LOT" means a portion of the Property intended for independent ownership, on which there is or will be constructed a dwelling, as shown on the Plat. Where the context indicates or requires, "Lot" includes all improvements thereon and any portion of a right-of-way that customarily is used exclusively by and in connection with the Lot. "Lot" shall mean and refer to any one (1) of the enumerated plots or tracts of land shown upon a Final Plat, and "Lots" shall mean and refer to more than one (1) of same, and shall include all Platted Developed Lots as well as all Platted Undeveloped Lots, as such terms are defined in this Section 1.21 below.
- 1.15. "MAJORITY" means more than half.

- 1.16. “MANAGING AGENT” means any Person or Entity who has been engaged and designated by the Board to manage the daily affairs and operations of the Association.
- 1.17. “MEMBER” means a member of the Association.
- 1.18. “OWNER” means a holder of a recorded fee simple title to a Lot. Declarant is the initial Owner of all Lots. Contract sellers and mortgagees who acquire title to a Lot through a deed in lieu of foreclosure or through judicial or nonjudicial foreclosure are Owners. Persons or entities having ownership interests merely as security for the performance of an obligation are not Owners.
- 1.19. “PHASE” means a particular phase developed upon the Property. Declarant may impose additional or different restrictions on each Phase. If Declarant annexes additional property into the Property as provided in Section 12.3, it may designate the area annexed as a particular Phase, and may impose, as provided in Section 12.3, additional or different restrictions on such area.
- 1.20. “PLATE**Error! Bookmark not defined.**” means all plats, singly and collectively, recorded in the Real Property Records of Parker County, Texas and pertaining to the LakeRidge Ranches community (referred to as LakeRidge Ranches). Addition(s) to the County of Weatherford, including (i) the Preliminary Plat, and thereafter the Final Plat, for any Phase of the Property submitted to and approved by the County, or any other applicable governmental entity; (ii) after recordation thereof, the final Plat for any Phase of the Property as recorded in the Records of Parker County, Texas; (iii) any replat of, or amendment to, the foregoing made by Declarant in accordance with this Declaration; and (iv) any final recorded plat of any additional property annexed into the Property pursuant to Section 12.3. Any of the specified definitions of the Plat include, without limitation, any and all dedications, limitations, restrictions, easements, and reservations shown on the plat, as it may be amended from time to time.
- 1.21. “RESIDENCE” or “RESIDENTIAL DWELLING” means a single-family detached residence constructed upon a Lot in conformance with this Declaration.
- 1.22. “STREET” means any paved road that is typically within a fifty-foot (50') right-of-way and serves the front or side of a Lot upon which a Residence is constructed.
- 1.23. “STRUCTURE” means any structure (other than a Residence), fence, driveway, sidewalk, planting, landscaping, irrigation system, wall, tennis court, swimming pool, outbuilding, playground equipment, or other improvement of any kind or type.
- 1.24. “PROPERTY” means all the land (referred to as “the Land” and/or “the Property” and/or “the Subdivision” herein) subject to this Declaration and all improvements, easements, rights, and appurtenances to the land. The name of the Property is **LakeRidge Ranches**. The Property is located on land described in **Exhibit A** to this Declaration and includes every residential Lot thereon.
- 1.25. “RESIDENT” means an occupant of a dwelling, regardless of whether the person owns the Lot.

- 1.26. “**RULES**” means rules and regulations adopted by the Board in accordance with the Governing Documents.

ARTICLE 2
PROPERTY SUBJECT TO DOCUMENTS

- 2.1. **PROPERTY**. The real property described in **Exhibit A** is held, transferred, sold, conveyed, leased, occupied, used, insured, and encumbered subject to the terms, covenants, conditions, restrictions, liens, and easements of this Declaration, including Declarant’s representations and reservations as set forth herein, which run with the Property and bind all parties having or acquiring any right, title, or interest in the Property, their heirs, successors, and assigns, and to the benefit of each Owner of the Property.
- 2.2. **ADDITIONAL PROPERTY**. Additional real property, including but not limited to the property described on **Exhibit B**, may be annexed to the Property, and subjected to the Declaration and the jurisdiction of the Association by the Declarant as permitted herein. Annexation of an additional property is accomplished by recording a Declaration of annexation, including an amendment of **Exhibit A**, in the County’s real property records.
- 2.3. **PLAT DEDICATIONS, EASEMENTS & RESTRICTIONS**. In addition to the easements and restrictions contained in this Declaration, the Property is subject to the dedications, limitations, easements, restrictions, maintenance agreements, and reservations shown or cited on the plat, which is incorporated herein by reference. Each Owner, by accepting an interest in or title to a Lot, whether or not it is so expressed in the instrument of conveyance, covenants and agrees to be bound by the plat, and further agrees to maintain any easement that crosses his Lot and for which the Association does not have express responsibility.
- 2.4. **COMMON AREAS**. The Common Area of the Property consists of the following components on or adjacent to the Property, even if located on a Lot or a public right-of-way:
- 2.4.1. All of the Property, save and except the numbered Lots unless said numbered Lots are designated as Common Area, and including all the lettered tracts;
- 2.4.2. The private streets, being all streets and cul-de-sacs within the Property that are not publicly dedicated;
- 2.4.3. Fixtures and improvements on or appurtenant to the private streets and which are intended for the use, operation, and/or maintenance of the private streets, including but not limited to curbs, street lamps, street name signs, and traffic signs;
- 2.4.4. The formal entrances to the Property, including (if any) the signage, access gates, landscaping, landscaping easements, water wells, fountains, lakes, parks, greenbelts, monuments, electrical and water installations, planter boxes and fencing;
- 2.4.5. Any modification, replacement, or addition to any of the above-described areas and improvements;

- 2.4.6. Personal property owned by the Association, such as any books and records, office equipment, and pool supplies and furniture (if any).

ARTICLE 3
PROPERTY EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS

- 3.1. **GENERAL.** In addition to other easements and rights established by the Governing Documents, the Property is subject to the easements and rights contained in this Article.
- 3.2. **EASEMENT FOR ENTRY FEATURE & SCREENING WALL.** The Association is hereby granted a perpetual easement (the "Maintenance Easement") over each Lot that abuts or contains a portion of the Property's formal entrances or the Property's screening wall, fence, or berm, for the purposes stated in this Section, regardless of whether or how the plat shows the easement, entry features, or screening wall, fence, or berm.
- 3.2.1 **Purpose of Easement.** The purpose of the Maintenance Easement is to provide for the existence, repair, improvement, and replacement of the Property's formal entrances and screening wall, fence, or berm, to be maintained by the Association as a Common Area. In exercising this Maintenance Easement, the Association may construct, maintain, improve, and replace improvements reasonably related to the screening or entrance of a residential subdivision, including: access gates, screening walls, fences and/or berms; planter beds, landscaping, and plant material; electrical and water meters and equipment, including light fixtures and sprinkler systems; and signage relating to the Property.
- 3.3. **MONUMENT EASEMENT & STREETLIGHT EASEMENT.** The Association is granted a perpetual easement (the "Monument Easement") over each Lot that contains a standard street name monument ("Monument Lot") and/or a standard streetlight ("Streetlight Lot") for the purpose of repairing, removing, and replacing the monument and/or streetlight as deemed necessary by the Association. In addition to the easement granted herein, the Association has the temporary right, from time to time, to use as much of the surface of the Monument Lot and/or Streetlight Lot as may be reasonably necessary for the Association to perform its contemplated work on the Monument Easement and/or Streetlight Easement. The Owner of a Monument Lot and/or Street light Lot may not remove, deface, cover, or screen the monument or streetlight or otherwise interfere with the intended use and purpose of the monument and/or streetlight.
- 3.4. **OWNER'S MAINTENANCE EASEMENT.** Every Owner is granted an access easement over adjoining Lots and Common Areas for the maintenance or reconstruction of his dwelling and other improvements on his Lot, provided exercise of the easement does not damage or materially interfere with the use of the adjoining Lot or Common Area. Requests for entry to an adjoining Lot or Common Area must be made to the Owner of the adjoining Lot, or the Association in the case of the Common Areas, in advance for a time reasonably convenient for the adjoining Owner, who may not unreasonably withhold consent. If an Owner damages an adjoining Lot or Common Area in exercising this easement, the Owner is obligated to restore the damaged property to its original conditions, at his expense, within a reasonable period of time.

- 3.5. OWNER'S INGRESS/EGRESS EASEMENT. Every Owner is granted a perpetual easement over the Property's streets, as may be reasonably required, for vehicular ingress to and egress from his Lot.
- 3.6. ASSOCIATION'S ACCESS EASEMENT. Each Owner grants to the Association, the Board, and the Declarant the right to access, repair and maintain all facilities and improvements within any wall, entry, fence, landscape, or other similar easement as recorded on any Plat. Furthermore, the Association and the Developer are granted an easement of access and entry to every Lot and Common Area to perform and to enforce architectural and use restrictions, to respond to emergencies, and to perform any other duties required by the Governing Documents. By acquisition of a Lot, each Owner hereby grants, creates and conveys unto the Association, the other adjacent Owners and the Declarant a perpetual Drainage Easement over, through, under and across the Owner's Lot for the purpose of permitting runoff and/or storm water to drain from other adjacent Lots over, through, under and across the Owner's Lot(s). Without limiting the foregoing, in order to facilitate drainage from the Property subject to the Declaration over, through, under and across the Owner's Lot, each Owner hereby agrees that the Declarant or the Association, as the case may be, shall have the right to enter onto the Owner's Lot at any time to (i) prevent possible interference with the Drainage Easement and to remove possible hazards from the Drainage Easement area, (ii) prevent the construction or placement of any building, structure or other obstruction with the Drainage Easement area which may endanger or interfere with the efficient and convenient use of the Drainage Easement, (iii) grade, improve, construct, reconstruct, repair and perpetually maintain swales within the Drainage Easement area, and (iv) or regrade portions of the Drainage Easement area necessary or appropriate to permit drainage as generally described herein or as approved or required by appropriate governmental authorities. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing rights of the Association or the Developer, each Owner hereby agrees to maintain the Drainage Easement area at such Owner's sole cost and expense. If any structures or other obstructions are constructed, created, or placed by any Owner within the Drainage Easement area without the prior written consent of the Association and the Declarant, the Declarant or the Association shall have the right to remove such structure or obstruction at the sole cost of such Owner.
- 3.7. UTILITY EASEMENT. The Association may grant permits, licenses, and easements over Common Areas for utilities, roads, and other purposes necessary for the proper operation of the Property. 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; provided, however, this easement may not be exercised without prior notice to the board. Utilities may include, but are not limited to, water, sewer, trash removal, fiber optic cable, electricity, gas, telephone, master or cable television, and security.
- 3.8. RISK. Each resident uses all Common Area amenities (if any) at his own risk. Each resident is solely responsible for his own safety and that of his guests. The Association and the Declarant disclaims any and all liability or responsibility for injury or death occurring from use of the Common Area. By acquisition of a Lot, each Owner acknowledges that he has read the Governing Documents and accepts his sole responsibility for his own safety and that of his guests when using the Common Area, and assumes any and all risks for loss, injuries and death arising out of such use.

- 3.9. INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK
- 3.10. RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION LIABILITY ACT. Without waiving any rights under law or equity Owners acknowledge, covenant and agree that residential construction defect claims regarding any residence or Lot against the Declarant and/or Builder are controlled by the Texas Residential Construction Act (Texas Property Code § 27.00 et. seq., as amended), which preempts The Texas Deceptive Trades Practices Act (Texas Business & Commerce Code § 17.41 et seq., as amended) and any other law.
- 3.11. EPA/TCEQ COMPLIANCE. The Owner of each Lot and/or the Builder of each Residence agree to comply with all applicable state and federal environmental laws and regulations and all other federal or state regulatory authority rules and regulations regarding erosion control and compliance with a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan affecting the Lots (the "Plan"), which include elements necessary for compliance with the nationwide general permit for construction activities administered by the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and any requirements of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ"). Each Owner and/or Builder acknowledges that the Declarant will not bear the cost or responsibility for complying with a "Plan" on any Lot upon the sale of that particular Lot within the subdivision to each Owner and/or Builder. The cost and responsibility to comply with the "Plan" shall be the responsibility of the Owner of each Lot or the Builder of each residence and the responsible Owner and/or the responsible Builder agrees to reimburse Declarant the cost of any applicable EPA fines, if any, due to said Owners and/or said Builders non-compliance with the "Plan".

ARTICLE 4

ARCHITECTURAL COVENANTS AND CONTROL

- 4.1. PURPOSE. Because the Lots are part of a single, unified community, the Association has the right to regulate the design, use, and appearance of the Lots and Common Areas in order to preserve and enhance the Property's value and architectural harmony, and to promote and ensure the level of taste, design, quality, and harmony by which the Property is developed and maintained.
- 4.2. ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE. The Architectural Control Committee (the "ACC") consists of a minimum of 3 persons but not more than 5 appointed by Declarant during the Development Period. After the Development Period, the ACC consists of 3 persons appointed by the Board, pursuant to the Bylaws, or, at the Board's option, the Board may act as the ACC. If the Board acts as the ACC, all references in the Governing Documents to the ACC are construed to mean the Board. Members of the ACC need not be Owners or residents.
- 4.3. LIMITS ON LIABILITY. THE APPROVAL BY THE DECLARANT OR THE ACC OF ANY PLANS OR OTHER SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ANY DWELLINGS OR OTHER IMPROVEMENTS SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE ANY REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY BY THE DECLARANT OR THE ACC THAT SUCH PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, DWELLING AND/OR OTHER IMPROVEMENTS COMPLY WITH ANY APPLICABLE LAWS, RULES,

ORDINANCES, GOOD AND PRUDENT DESIGN, ENGINEERING, AND CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES OR OTHER BUILDING STANDARDS OR THAT SUCH DWELLING AND/OR OTHER IMPROVEMENTS ARE SAFE FOR HUMAN USE AND HABITATION. THE MEMBERS OF THE ACC AND THE DECLARANT (AND THE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, PARTNERS, EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS OF THE ACC AND/OR DECLARANT) SHALL HAVE NO PERSONAL LIABILITY IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF ANY PLANS OR SPECIFICATIONS OR OTHER REQUESTS MADE TO THE DECLARANT AND/OR ACC. IT IS THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER TO DETERMINE THAT SUCH OWNER'S PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS COMPLY WITH ALL SUCH REQUIREMENTS AND PRACTICES.

- 4.4. PROHIBITION OF CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION & IMPROVEMENT. Without the ACC's prior written approval, a person may not construct a dwelling or make an addition, alteration, improvement, installation, modification, or reconstruction of or to the Property. The ACC has the right but not the duty to evaluate every aspect of construction, landscaping, and property use that may adversely affect the general value or appearance of the Property.
- 4.5. PROCEDURE FOR ACC APPROVAL. To request ACC approval, an Owner must make a written application and submit a complete set of plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, color, size, materials, and locations of the work for which approval is sought. Final plans and specifications shall be submitted electronically, to the Associations' Architectural Control Committee. The plans and specifications shall show the nature, kind, shape, height, materials and location of all landscaping and improvements. The documents shall specify any requested variances from the requirements set forth in this Declaration. The Architectural Control Committee is authorized to request the submission of samples of proposed construction materials and such other information, as they reasonably deem necessary to make their determination. At such time as the plans and specifications meet the approval of the Architectural Control Committee, one complete set of plans and specifications will be retained electronically by the Architectural Control Committee, for up to three (3) years only, and a copy of the complete set of plans shall be marked "Approved," and returned to the Lot Owner or his designated representative. If disapproved by the Architectural Control Committee, a complete set of such plans shall be returned marked "Disapproved" and shall be accompanied by a reasonable statement of the reasons for disapproval, which statement shall be signed by a representative of the Architectural Control Committee. Any modification of the approved set of plans and specifications must again be submitted to the Architectural Control Committee for its approval. The Architectural Control Committee's approval or disapproval, as required herein, shall be in writing. In no event shall the Architectural Control Committee give verbal approval of any plans.
- 4.6. DEEMED APPROVAL. If the ACC fails to respond in writing – negatively, affirmatively, or requesting information – within 60 days after the ACC's actual receipt of the Owner's application, the Owner may submit a second request for processing of its original application. If the board fails to respond within 45 days after the board's actual receipt of the Owner's second request, the Owner's application is deemed approved. The Owner may then proceed with the improvement, provided he adheres to the plans and specifications, which accompanied his application, and provided he initiates and completes the

improvement in a timely manner. In exercising deemed approval, the burden is on the Owner to document the board's actual receipt of the Owner's initial application and second request. A signed certified mail receipt may establish the Architectural Control Committee's receipt of the plans. Any Builder who is constructing residences on multiple Lots shall have the option of submitting a master set of final plans and specifications for all of the residences it intends to construct within the Property to the Architectural Control Committee in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph. Once the master set of plans have been approved, the Builder shall be allowed to construct residences in accordance with such approved plans and no further submittals shall be required unless material deviations have been made to such approved plans.

- 4.7. BUILDING PERMIT. If the application is for work that requires a building permit from any governmental entity, the ACC's approval is conditioned on the governmental entity's issuance of the appropriate permit. The ACC's approval of plans and specifications does not mean that they comply with the governmental entity's requirements. Alternatively, approval by the governmental entity does not ensure ACC approval.
- 4.8. ACC GUIDELINES. The Association may publish architectural restrictions, guidelines, and standards developed by the ACC, subject to revision from time to time including revisions to reflect changes in technology, style, and taste. The Association may publish such documents, on its own initiative, but shall not be required to do so. Such publications are considered *advisory* publications for the ACC, but shall not be interpreted as final, or as the ultimate authority as it is the Declarant's intention that the ACC have discretionary authority when need be. Clearly, any publications cited, used or followed from time to time are not to be regarded as limiting the authority and/or the discretion of the ACC. Furthermore, in light of the ACC's discretion to deviate from such publications as need be, publications will not be considered public property or subject to review by any one other than those comprising the ACC. The Association, acting through the ACC, has the right to establish and enforce architectural restrictions, guidelines, and standards relating to every aspect of proposed or existing improvements on a Lot, including but not limited to dwellings, fences, and landscaping, and further including replacements or modifications of original construction or installation.
- 4.9. IN SOME INSTANCES GOVERNMENTAL REQUIREMENTS MAY BE MORE OR LESS RESTRICTIVE THAN THE PROVISIONS OF THIS DECLARATION. IN THE EVENT A CONFLICT EXISTS BETWEEN ANY SUCH GOVERNMENTAL REQUIREMENT AND REQUIREMENT OF THIS DECLARATION, THE MOST RESTRICTIVE REQUIREMENT SHALL PREVAIL, EXCEPT IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE COMPLIANCE WITH A MORE RESTRICTIVE PROVISION OF THE DECLARATION WOULD RESULT IN A VIOLATION OF MANDATORY GOVERNMENTAL REQUIREMENTS, IN WHICH EVENT THOSE GOVERNMENTAL REQUIREMENTS SHALL APPLY. COMPLIANCE WITH MANDATORY GOVERNMENTAL REQUIREMENTS WILL NOT RESULT IN THE BREACH OF THIS DECLARATION EVEN THOUGH SUCH COMPLIANCE MAY RESULT IN NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS DECLARATION. WHERE A GOVERNMENTAL REQUIREMENT DOES NOT CLEARLY CONFLICT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS DECLARATION BUT PERMITS ACTION THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT REQUIRED BY THIS DECLARATION, THE PROVISIONS OF THIS DECLARATION SHALL PREVAIL.

ARTICLE 5
RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION AND PERMITTED USES

- 5.1. **COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS.** All improvements on a Lot must (1) comply with any applicable County ordinances and codes, and (2) have the ACC's prior written approval. These 2 requirements are independent – one does not ensure or eliminate the need for another. The ACC's prior written approval is a mandatory requirement for any variance and/or improvement constructed on every Lot.
- 5.2. **VARIANCE.** The use of the Property is subject to the restrictions contained in this Article, and subject to rules adopted pursuant to this Article. The board or the ACC, as the case may be, may grant a variance or waiver of a restriction or rule on a case-by-case basis, and may limit or condition its grant.
- 5.3. **HOUSES.** The principle improvement on a Lot must be one detached single-family dwelling. The dwelling size, setbacks, and exterior materials must comply with the applicable ordinances and with any higher standards established by the ACC.
- 5.4. **LOT SURVEY.** Prior to commencement of design, it is the responsibility of the Owner to obtain a survey by a Surveyor licensed in the State of Texas to confirm existing grades, tops and toes of slope, edges of existing ponds and any other features or Lot attributes that would effect the design of any Lot Residence or Structure.
- 5.5. **CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE.** All Residences or Structures commenced on a Lot shall be completed within 24 months after commencement according to approved final design review plans, unless an exception is granted in writing by the ACC. If an improvement is commenced and construction is then abandoned for more than 90 days, or if construction is not completed within the required 24-month period, the Association may impose a fine or not less than \$100.00 per day (or such other reasonable amount as the ACC or Association may set) to be charged again the Owner of the Lot until construction is resumed, or the improvement is completed, as applicable, unless the Owner can prove to the satisfaction of the Board that such abandonment is for circumstances beyond the Owner's control.
- 5.6. **DAMAGE REPAIR & RESTORATION.** Damage and scarring to other property, including Common Areas, open space, adjacent Lots or parcels, Streets, roads, driveways and/or other improvements will not be permitted. If any such damage occurs, it must be repaired and/or restored promptly at the expense of the person causing the damage or the Owner of the Lot. Upon completion of construction, each Owner and Builder will be responsible for cleaning up the construction site and for the repair of all property that was damaged, including but not limited to restoring grades, planting shrubs and trees as approved or required by the ACC, and repair of Streets, driveways, pathways, drains, culverts, ditches, signs, lighting and fencing. Any property repair costs as mentioned above, incurred by the ACC or The Association will be charged and billed to the Owner and Builder, as a joint and several liability.
- 5.7. **CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATIONS.** In addition to the building inspections required by any governing authority, the following construction observations must be scheduled with the ACC:

1. Site and Mock-up Observation – This observation includes review of staking of the construction area including all corners of proposed buildings, driveways, and extent of grading. In addition, flagging of all trees to be removed and/or protected will be reviewed. In addition, an on-site mock-up shall be constructed for approval by the ACC. Construct full-scale mock-up utilizing either the house or a minimum 4' X 6' mock-up, that accurately conveys all proposed exterior materials, colors, (including stone material, and/or siding) and detailing, including window, corner, and trim details and/or details of areas where one material changes to another. This observation must be completed prior to framing.
 2. Framing Observation – This observation must be done prior to enclosure of exterior walls and roof.
 3. Final Observation – This observation must be made prior to the Certificate of Occupancy issued by any governing authority.
- 5.8 FOUNDATIONS. The Owner is encouraged to seek the assistance of a licensed Soil Engineer to examine and test soils conditions on his Lot prior to undertaking any design or construction. Declarant makes no representations or warranties express or implied, as to the soil conditions.

The Owner and the Owner's Architect, Engineer and Contractor shall give due consideration to the design of the foundation systems of all structures.

It is the Owner's responsibility to conduct an independent soils engineering investigation to determine the suitability and feasibility of any Lot for construction of the intended Improvement.

- 5.9 EXCAVATION, GRADING & TREE PROTECTION. Blowing dust resulting from grading and construction operations must be controlled by watering. During construction, erosion must be minimized on exposed cut and/or fill slopes through proper soil stabilization, water control and revegetation. The Builder is responsible for the implementation of erosion control techniques. Grading operations may be suspended by the ACC during periods of heavy rains or high winds.

Every effort must be made to avoid compaction and/or disturbance within the drip line of all existing trees located within and outside an approved construction area.

All topsoil disturbed by grading operations must be stockpiled and covered to minimize blowing dust within the construction area and reused as part of the site restoration/landscaping plans.

- 5.10 DEBRIS AND TRASH REMOVAL. Builders must clean up all trash and debris on the construction site at the end of the day. Trash and debris must be removed from each construction site at least once a week and transported to an authorized disposal site. Lightweight material, packaging, and other items, must be covered or weighted down to prevent wind from blowing such materials off the construction site. Builders are prohibited from dumping, burying, or burning trash anywhere on the Lot or in

LakeRidge Ranches except in areas, if any, expressly designated by the ACC. During the construction period, each construction site must be kept neat and tidy to prevent it from becoming a public eyesore or affecting adjacent Lots. Dirt, mud, or debris resulting from activity on each construction site must be promptly removed from roads, open spaces and driveways, or other portions of **LakeRidge Ranches**. Temporary construction signage is allowed at the Owner's and/or Builder's discretion, subject to advance approval by the ACC.

Any clean-up costs incurred by the ACC or the Association in enforcing these requirements will be billed to the Owner or Builder as needed.

- 5.11 NO PETS. Construction personnel are prohibited from bringing pets, particularly dogs, into **LakeRidge Ranches**.
- 5.12 SECURITY. Security precautions on the construction site may include temporary fencing approved by the ACC. Security lights, audible alarms and guard animal will not be permitted.
- 5.13 NOISE. Builder will make every effort to keep noise to a minimum. Radios will not be allowed in order to minimize disturbance to neighbors.
- 5.14 MINIMUM FLOOR AREA. The total air-conditioned living area of the main residential structure constructed on each Lot, as measured to the outside of exterior walls but exclusive of open porches, garages, patios and detached accessory buildings, shall be three thousand (3,000) square feet.
- 5.15 BUILDING MATERIALS. Except to the extent a higher percentage is required by the governmental entity, the total exterior wall area (as used herein the term "total exterior wall area" shall exclude windows and doors) of each building constructed or placed on a Lot shall be not less than ninety percent (90%) brick, brick veneer, stone, stone veneer, stucco, masonry (or a combination of such materials) or other material approved by the Declarant. Roofing shall be of a substance acceptable to the Declarant and shall consist of either: A forty (40) year composition shingle; slate; tile (concrete or clay). All roof materials and exact roof material colors must be submitted and approved prior to construction.
- 5.16 CHIMNEYS. All fireplace flues, smoke stacks, and spark arrestors shall be completely enclosed and concealed from public view in finished chimneys of materials architecturally compatible with the finish material of the exterior walls of the dwelling.
- 5.17 GARAGES. Each residence shall have a garage suitable for parking a minimum of three (3) standard size automobiles, which garage conforms in design and materials with the main structure.
- 5.18 NEW CONSTRUCTION. Dwellings must be constructed on the Lot. A dwelling or addition constructed elsewhere may not be moved onto a Lot. The construction of a dwelling must be started promptly after the ACC approves the dwelling's plans and specification. At the start of construction – but not before – building material to be used in the construction may be stored in a neat and organized matter on the Lot at all times. Once started, the dwelling and all improvements on the Lot must be completed with due diligence.

- 5.19 ACCESSORIES. Installation of all exterior items and surfaces, including address numbers, decorative hardware, fencing, walls, external ornamentation, lights fixtures, and exterior paint and stain, is subject to the ACC's prior approval, including approval of design, color, materials, and location.
- 5.20 FENCES & WALLS. All fences visible from the public view from any street within the subdivision must be pipe fencing with three (3) horizontal rails or wrought iron. Any other high-quality fence products may be considered. In this case, samples of materials, design, colors, etc. must be submitted to the ACC for consideration of approval. For Lots fronting the public county road, outside of the gates of LakeRidge Ranches, fences may be allowed around the entire perimeter of the Lot to allow for a private entry gate on the front of the lot for security purposes. In this case, the black ranch-style fence installed at the LakeRidge Ranches entry is acceptable. Any other fence must be high-quality, black in color, and must be submitted to the ACC for approval.. All fences must architecturally and stylistically be designed in such a way to compliment the exterior of the Residence. This Section is subject to the ACC's right to adopt additional or different specifications for construction or reconstruction of fences. No chain link fences are permitted. No fence or wall shall be permitted to extend nearer to any street than five feet (5') from the front of any residence. However, all side yard fencing on corner Lots shall run parallel to the curb and may be placed up to the side Lot line and shall not extend beyond a point of five feet (5') behind the front of the residence on that side. Any fence or portion thereof that faces a public street shall be so constructed so that all structural members and posts will be on the side of the fence away from the street so that they are not visible from any public right-of-way. No portion of any fence shall extend more than five (5') in height without prior approval of the ACC. Fences may not be constructed between a dwelling's front building line and the street. All fence design, location, height, material and color must be approved, in writing, by the ACC prior to installation.
- 5.21 RETAINING WALLS. Retaining walls must be constructed entirely with ACC-approved materials, however railroad ties may not be used for any retaining wall visible from a street. All retaining walls must be designed in such a way to compliment the exterior of the home and must be approved by the ACC in the event that the materials used are different than the materials approved for the home.
- 5.22 UTILITIES. All utility lines and equipment must be located underground, except for: (1) elevated or surface lines or equipment required by a public utility; (2) elevated or surface lines or equipment installed by Declarant as part of the development plan; and (3) surface equipment necessary to maintain, operate, or read underground facilities, such as meters, risers, service pedestals, and transformers. The ACC may require that utility meters, risers, pedestals, and transformers be visually screened form the street and neighboring Lots. **There is no public water supply, sewage service or gas supply to the Property.**

Water Wells. A water well is required in order to provide water service to every Lot/Residence, and is the sole responsibility of the Owner.
All well locations must be able to be accessed for service but must be screened from public view.

**WATER WELLS MUST BE PERMITTED THROUGH THE UPPER TRINITY
GROUNDWATER CONVSERVATION DISTRICT.**

Septic System. A septic system is required in order to provide sewage and wastewater treatment to every Lot/Residence, and is the sole responsibility of the Owner. All septic system locations must be able to be accessed for service but must be screened from public view. All septic systems must be inspected by the County if required by County regulations.

Propane Tank. The Owner may install, at the Owner's election and sole risk, ONE (1) underground propane tank, which must be out of public view and must be installed by a certified propane specialist and inspected if required by any governing authority. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality require a minimum distance between the septic system and the propane tank. It shall be the Owner's responsibility to comply with all, such applicable laws and any other laws which may apply to the residential use of propane tanks.

There is no County water supply, sewage service or gas supply to the Property.

- 5.23 **LOT MAINTENANCE BY OWNERS.** Both the Lot and the dwelling must be maintained in a manner so as not to be unsightly when viewed from the street or neighboring Lots. Every Lot is required to be mowed and maintained in such a manner to enhance the appearance of the neighborhood. This includes the removal of any and all debris, dead wood, rubbish, unused rock or stone, etc., on an as needed basis (even if any such debris were not in any way the fault of the property Owner). The ACC reserves the right to contract for these services and fine the property Owner cost plus \$500.00 plus legal and collection fees if property Owner fails to maintain the subject property in a manner satisfactory to the ACC. Property Owner is required to comply within 14 days from receipt of notice by the ACC. The ACC is the arbitrator of acceptable appearance standards. All Lots must have a sprinkler system installed.
- 5.24 **ASSOCIATION'S RIGHT TO PROMULGATE RULES.** The Association, acting through its Board, is granted the right to adopt, amend, repeal, and enforce reasonable Rules and penalties for infractions thereof, regarding the occupancy, use, disposition, maintenance, appearance, and enjoyment of the Property. In addition to the restrictions contained in this Article, each Lot is owned and occupied subject to the right of the Board to establish Rules, and penalties for infractions thereof, governing:
- a. Use of the Common Areas.
 - b. Hazardous, illegal, or annoying materials or activities on the Property
 - c. The use of Property-wide services provided through the Association.
 - d. The consumption of utilities billed to the Association.
 - e. The use, maintenance, and appearance of exteriors of dwellings and Lots.
 - f. The occupancy and leasing of dwellings.
 - g. Animals.
 - h. Vehicles.
 - i. Disposition of trash and control of vermin, termites, and pests.

- j. Anything that interferes with maintenance of the Property, operation of the Association, administration of the Governing Documents, or the quality of life for Residents.

5.25 ACCESSORY STRUCTURES. Without the prior written approval of the ACC, accessory structures – such as dog houses, gazebos, storage buildings, playhouses, and greenhouses - are prohibited unless first approved by the ACC. No more than two (2) accessory structures will be allowed with a maximum square footage of 2500 square feet. Any structure larger than 2500 square feet may be approved at the ACC's complete discretion pending the design and layout. Accessory structures must be permanent. Accessory structures may be constructed of metal but must be neutral in color, have a masonry wainscot or approved landscape beginning at the bottom of the building and extending three feet (3') upward on the front of the building. Accessory structures may not be located in front yards or in unfenced portions of side yards facing streets. If an accessory structure is installed in violation of this Section, the ACC reserves the right to determine that the accessory structure is unattractive or inappropriate or otherwise unsuitable for the Property and may require the Owner to screen it or to remove it at the ACC's complete discretion.

GET ACC APPROVAL BEFORE YOU SHOP FOR A STORAGE SHED.

5.26 ANIMALS. No animals or livestock shall be raised, bred, or kept on the Property except that dogs, cats, horses or other household pets may be kept for the purpose of providing companionship for the private family; however, a maximum of five (5) pets per property is imposed upon all Owners. Animals are not to be raised, bred, or kept for commercial purposes or for food. It is the purpose of these provisions to restrict the use of the Property so that no person shall quarter on the premises cows, , hogs, pigs, guinea fowls, ducks, chickens, turkeys, skunks or any other animals that may interfere with the quietude, health or safety of the Community. Pigs are not allowed in LakeRidge Ranches. Up to one horses per two (2) acres or one cow per 2 acres, may be kept by an Owner. Boarding of another Owner's horse is prohibited. Arenas are allowed but only after obtaining approval from the ACC. Pets must be restrained or confined by their Owner to the back yard of the applicable Lot, inside a fenced area or within the residence erected thereon, provided any such pets may be walked only if a leash restrains such pet. It is the Owner's responsibility to keep the front of their Lot clean and free of pet debris. All animals must be properly tagged for identification. Unless the Rules provide otherwise, the subsections of this Article shall govern animals at the Property. Any litters of household pet which would cause the total number of pets to exceed five (5) must be sold or otherwise disposed of within six (6) months from the birth of any such litter so that the total number of pets shall not exceed five (5) after such six (6) month period. Any animals that cause a nuisance or dissatisfaction to the neighborhood or neighborhood properties will not be tolerated by the HOA. This includes appearance, noise, or odors.

4H projects are allowed and must be submitted to the ACC for approval. All construction necessary for such projects must also be included in the 4H project request.

5.27 DISTURBANCE. Pets must be kept in a manner that does not disturb the peaceful enjoyment of residents of other Lots.

- 5.28 WASTE REMOVAL. Unless the Rules provide otherwise, a resident must prevent his pet from relieving itself on the Common Area or the Lot of another Owner. Resident is responsible for the removal of his pet's wastes from the Property.
- 5.29 LIABILITY. An Owner is responsible for any property damage, injury, or disturbance caused or inflicted by an animal kept on the Lot. The Owner of a Lot on which an animal is kept is deemed to indemnify and to hold harmless the Board, the Declarant, the Builder(s) and the Association, from any loss, claim, or liability resulting from any action of the animal or arising by reason of keeping the animal on the Property.
- 5.30 SPAS AND SWIMMING POOLS. Belowground swimming pools and their fencing may be installed only with the prior written approval of the Architectural Control Committee. Above-ground swimming pools are not permitted.
- 5.31 DRAINAGE AND EROSION CONTROL. No person may interfere with the established drainage pattern over any part of the Property unless the Board has approved an adequate alternative provision for proper drainage. Further, each Owner covenants to honor any drainage easement affecting his Lot, as shown on the plat or as required by any master drainage plan enacted by the County. Specifically, each Owner agrees (1) to maintain the integrity of the drainage design of his Lot by not filling or altering drainage swales that are constructed on the Lot as required by the County or by the ACC; (2) to not construct fences that impede or deflect the flow of water across his Lot; (3) to not impede or deflect the flow of water in drainage areas by placing objects or by planting excessive landscaping in those areas; and (4) to conform the design and construction of sidewalks, driveways, and foundations in drainage areas to the County's drainage requirements.

Each Owner understands that a portion of the Property has been or will be graded by Declarant to drain in accordance with an approved grading and drainage plan. Any future construction on the individual Lots by an Owner (including pools, spas, fences, landscaping, etc.) can disrupt the drainage and cause flooding, excessive settlement and other problems. The Owner is responsible for drainage of the Property as it is delivered at Closing and in accordance with the grading and drainage plans made a part of the Development. Any subsequent changes in grade or soil conditions and any damages or loss resulting therefrom shall be Buyer's sole responsibility and Buyer hereby releases and indemnifies Seller, its agents and employees, from and against any and all liability and/or damages which may arise as a result of such changes.

Each Owner or their Contractor must create, file and maintain a SWPPP plan as required on the property throughout the construction process. It is the sole responsibility of the Owner to keep their property in compliance with all applicable governmental regulations related to stormwater maintenance and drainage.

Each Owner is responsible for maintaining vegetation and/or taking necessary measures to prevent erosion of soil onto a neighboring property or roadway.

Each Owner is responsible for preventing an increase in drainage or runoff of water onto a property that is located below or downhill from their own Lot. Under certain circumstances with unduly steep terrain in LakeRidge Ranches, the downhill Owner's must design their home site and drainage plan to mitigate drainage from the Property located uphill from the downhill property. In this case, the downhill property owner should seek the advice of a

licensed civil engineer on potential critical drainage areas on their property. These issues are not the responsibility of the Developer or Declarant.

- 5.26. DRIVEWAYS. The driveway portion of a Lot may not be used for any purpose that interferes with its ongoing use as a route of vehicular access to the garage. Without the Board's prior approval, a driveway may not be used: (1) for storage purposes, including storage of boats, trailers, and inoperable vehicles; or (2) for repair or restoration of vehicles other than routine short-term maintenance.
- 5.27. BASKETBALL GOALS. Without the ACC's prior written approval, basketball goals and other recreational or supporting equipment may not be used, attached, mounted, or installed in a front yard, on a front driveway, in an unfenced portion of a side yard, or on the street side exterior portion of a dwelling. If the ACC grants approval for such equipment, the approval may be revoked if the equipment is not maintained, or if it becomes unsightly in the reasonable discretion of the ACC.
- 5.28. LANDSCAPING. Every front yard shall be sodded and have an underground irrigation system installed no later than thirty (30) days following completion of the Residence. "Completion" as it is used in this Section 5.18 shall be defined as the date upon which a Certificate of Occupancy is issued for the Residence.
- 5.29. MAILBOXES. Centralized cluster mailbox service will be located at the entry of LakeRidge Ranches. Individual mailboxes are not to be constructed on any Lot.
- 5.30. LEASING OF HOMES. An Owner may lease the dwelling on his Lot, subject to the Governing Documents (whether or not a written lease sets forth provisions for same). An Owner is responsible for providing his tenant with copies of the Governing Documents and notifying him of changes thereto. An Owner is also responsible for the tenant and/or his invitees', failure to comply with the Governing Documents and any and all federal, state or local laws and regulations.
- 5.31. NOISE & ODOR. A resident must exercise reasonable care to avoid making or permitting to be made loud, disturbing, or objectionable noises or noxious odors of any kind that are likely to disturb or annoy residents of neighboring Lots. The Rules may prohibit the use of noise-producing security devices.
- 5.32. OCCUPANCY. Other than the completed principle dwelling, no thing or structure on a Lot may be occupied as a residence at any time by any person. This provision applies, without limitation, to the garage, mobile homes, campers, and storage sheds.
- 5.33. RESIDENTIAL USE. The use of a Lot is limited exclusively to residential purposes or any other use permitted by this Declaration. This residential restriction does not, however, prohibit a resident from using a dwelling for personal business or professional pursuits provided that: (1) the uses are incidental to the use of the dwelling as a residence; (2) the uses conform to applicable governmental ordinances; (3) there is no external evidence of the uses; (4) the uses do not entail visits to the Lot by employees or the public in quantities that materially increase the number of vehicles parked on the street; and (5) the uses do not interfere with residents' use and enjoyment of neighboring Lots.

5.34. TELEVISION AND ANTENNAS. Each resident of the Property will avoid doing or permitting anything to be done that may unreasonably interfere with the television, radio, telephonic, electronic, microwave, cable, or satellite reception on the Property. Antennas, satellite or microwave dishes, and receiving or transmitting towers that are visible from a street or from another Lot are prohibited within the Property, and shall be located inside the structure (such as in an attic or garage). The Owner of each Lot and/or residence hereby waives all rights, federal or other, for operating or maintaining ham radio antennas within the Property unless the ham radio antenna is not visible from the street or another Lot.

5.35. LIMITED EXCEPTIONS. The following are the only areas for attachment and/or mounting that will be allowed as exceptions to the foregoing language in this section

- a. Attachment, location or mounting in a fenced yard so long as it is not visible from a street or from another Lot;
- b. Attached to or mounted on the rear wall of a structure below the eaves, on the residence or in a tree, provided it is mounted in the most inconspicuous location when viewed from the front of the residence.

In the event a dispute arises with regard to the determination of the "most inconspicuous location" of any such mounted satellite dish, a majority of the Board of Directors shall determine the most inconspicuous location and such determination shall be final. No satellite dish in excess of twenty-five inches (25") shall be permitted on any Lot.

5.36. TEMPORARY STRUCTURES. Improvements or structures of a temporary or mobile nature, such as tents, portable sheds, and mobile homes, which are being used for the purposes of the construction of the Residence may not be placed on a Lot if visible from a street or another Lot. However, an Owner or Owner's contractor may maintain a temporary structure (such as a portable toilet or construction trailer) on the Lot during construction of the dwelling.

5.37. VEHICLES. All vehicles on the Property, whether owned or operated by the residents or their families and guests, are subject to this Section and Rules adopted by the Board. The Board may adopt, amend, and repeal rules regulating the types, sizes, numbers, conditions, uses, appearances, and locations of vehicles on the Property. Without prior written Board approval, the following types of vehicles and vehicular equipment – mobile or otherwise – may not be kept, parked, or stored anywhere on the Property if the vehicle is visible from a street or from another Lot: mobile homes, motor homes, buses, trailers, boats, aircraft, inoperable vehicles, commercial truck cabs, trucks with tonnage over one ton, vehicles with advertising signage, vehicles which are not customary personal passenger vehicles, and any vehicle which the Board deems to be a nuisance, unsightly, or inappropriate. This restriction includes overnight parking on streets, driveways, and alleys. This restriction does not apply to vehicles and equipment temporarily on the Property in connection with the construction or maintenance of a dwelling. Vehicles that transport inflammatory, bio-hazardous or explosive cargo are prohibited from the Property at all times. The Association may effect the removal of any vehicle in violation of this Section or the Rules without liability to the owner or operator of the vehicle. All vehicles parked on any Lot within the view of public shall be in good operating condition, shall have current license plates, inspection stickers and

registrations and shall be in daily use as motor vehicles on the streets and highways of the State of Texas.

- 5.38. STORAGE OF TRAILERS, RVs, AND BOATS. No trailers, RVs, trucks (other than pick-ups with a rated capacity of one (1) ton or less), boats, personal water crafts, tractors, wagons, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), lawn or garden equipment, farm or ranch equipment, construction equipment and other similar items shall be or stored on any road in the Subdivision. Only (1) such items may be stored within the fenced/enclosed area of the back yard, which it could be viewed from any road in the Subdivision.
- 5.39. WINDOW TREATMENTS. Without the ACC's prior written approval, the color of all window treatments within the dwelling that are visible from the street, or another dwelling must appear to be a neutral color, such as cream, beige, brown, or gray. Solar screens are not allowed.
- 5.40. CONSTRUCTION RESTRICTIONS AND PROHIBITED USES. The ACC's prior written approval for any variance and/or improvements constructed on every Lot must have the characteristics described herein, which may be treated as the minimum requirements for improving and using a Lot. The ACC and the Board may promulgate additional rules and restrictions, as well as interpretations, additions, and specifications of the restrictions contained in this Article.

The following restrictions and prohibited uses shall be strictly followed and enforced:

- 5.40.1 No temporary dwelling, shop, trailer or mobile home of any kind or any improvement of a temporary character (except children's playhouses, dog houses, greenhouses, gazebos and buildings for storage of lawn maintenance equipment) shall be permitted on any Lot except that the Builder or contractor may have temporary improvements (such as a sales office and/or construction trailer) on a given Lot during construction of the residence on that Lot or on a different Lot as agreed to between the Builder or contractor and the Declarant. No building material of any kind or character shall be placed or stored upon the Property until the Owner thereof is ready to commence construction of improvements, and then such material shall be placed within the property lines of the Lot upon which the improvements are to be erected.
- 5.40.2 No Lot or other area on the Property shall be used as a dumping ground for rubbish or a site for the accumulation of unsightly materials of any kind, including, without limitation, broken or rusty equipment, disassembled or inoperative cars, other vehicles or discarded appliances, furniture and/or grass clippings. Trash, garbage, or other waste shall not be kept except in sanitary containers. All incinerators or other equipment for the storage or other disposal of such material shall be kept in clean and sanitary condition. Materials relevant to construction of improvements may be stored on Lots during construction so long as construction progresses without undue delay.
- 5.40.3 No air-conditioning apparatus shall be installed on the ground in front of a residence or on the side of the residence in view of any public street. No air-conditioning apparatus shall be attached to any front wall or window of a

residence, and no evaporative cooler shall be installed on the front wall or window of a residence. All air-conditioning equipment must be installed in the rear yard or in the side yard. If it is placed in a side yard and faces the street, it must be screened. Solar panels installed on the residence or Lot are allowed only if not visible from the street or any other Lot.

- 5.40.4 No Lot or improvement thereon shall be used for commercial or manufacturing purposes of any kind other than a small home office. No noxious or offensive activity shall be undertaken on the Property, nor shall anything be done which is or may become an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood. Nothing in this subparagraph shall prohibit a Builder's use of a residence as a sales office until such Builder's last residence on the Property is sold. Nothing in this subparagraph shall prohibit an Owner's use of a residence for quiet, inoffensive activities such as a small home office, tutoring or giving lessons such as art or music, so long as such activities do not materially increase the number of cars parked on the street or interfere with the other Owners' reasonable use and enjoyment of their Lots and residences.
- 5.40.5 No fence, wall, hedge or shrub planting which obstructs sight lines at elevations between three feet (3') and six feet (5') above the roadway shall be placed or permitted to remain on any corner Lot within the triangular area formed by the street right-of-way lines and a line connecting them at points ten feet (10') from the intersection of the street right-of-way lines, or, in the case of a rounded property corner, from the intersection of the street right-of-way lines as extended. The same sight-line limitations shall apply on any Lot within ten (10) feet from the intersection of a street right-of-way line with the edge of a private driveway or alley pavement. No tree shall be permitted to remain within such distance of such intersections unless the foliage line is maintained at sufficient height to prevent obstruction of such sight lines.
- 5.40.6 No garage, garage house, or structure of a temporary character, such as a trailer, tent, shack, barn or other out-building shall be occupied by any Owner, tenant or other person prior to the erection of a residence or used on the Property at any time as a dwelling house; provided, however, that any Builder may maintain and occupy model homes, sales offices and construction trailers during the construction period and sales periods.
- 5.40.7 Except for children's playhouses, dog houses, greenhouses, gazebos, and buildings for storage of lawn maintenance equipment, no building previously constructed elsewhere shall be moved onto any Lot, it being the intention that only new construction be placed and erected thereon.
- 5.40.8 No sign of any kind shall be displayed to the public view on any Lot, except one (1) professional security service sign of not more than one square foot, one (1) sign of not more than five square feet advertising the property for rent or sale, and one (1) open house sign used by a Builder to advertise the Property during the construction and sales period, all of which signs shall, in any event, comply with all statutes, laws or ordinances governing same. All Builder signs and for sale signs must be the approved LakeRidge Ranches sign, dimensions, materials, and colors as defined by the ACC. Any other sign used by a Property Owner or

Builder is prohibited and may be removed by the Declarant at any time. The Board of Directors or its agents shall have the right to remove any sign, billboard or other advertising structure that does not comply with the above, and in so doing shall not be subject to any liability for trespass or otherwise in connection with such removal.

- 5.40.9 The drying of clothes in full public view is prohibited. The Owners and occupants of any Lots at the intersections of streets or adjacent to parks, playgrounds or other facilities where the rear yard is visible to full public view shall construct a fence or other suitable enclosure to screen from public view the equipment and other items which are incident to normal residences, such as clothes drying equipment, yard equipment, wood piles, storage piles and the like.
- 5.40.10 No Owner shall perform, fail to perform or permit anything to be done or not done on his Lot, which would violate any laws, statutes, ordinances or regulations of any kind or character.
- 5.40.11 Except for the water wells described in Section 5.11.1, no oil drilling, oil development operation, oil refining, quarrying, water well drilling or mining operations of any kind shall be permitted in or on the Property, (other than by Declarant), nor shall oil wells, tanks (including propane tanks), tunnels, mineral excavations or shafts be permitted upon or in any part of the Property (other than by Declarant). No derrick or other structure designed for using in quarrying or boring for oil, natural gas or other minerals shall be erected, maintained or permitted on the Property.
- 5.40.12 No Lot or Common Area may be used in any way that: (1) may reasonably be considered a public nuisance and/or a disturbance of the peace; (2) may be calculated to reduce the desirability of the Property as a residential neighborhood; (3) may endanger the health or safety of residents of other Lots; (4) may result in the cancellation of insurance on the Property; or (5) violates any law. The Board has the sole authority to determine what constitutes an annoyance.

ARTICLE 6

ASSOCIATION AND MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS

- 6.1. **THE BOARD.** Unless the Governing Documents expressly reserve a right, action, or decision to the Owners, Declarant, or another party, the Board acts in all instances on behalf of the Association. Unless the context indicates otherwise, references in the Governing Documents to the "Association" may be construed to mean "the Association acting through its Board of Directors."
- 6.2. **THE ASSOCIATION.** The duties and powers of the Association are those set forth in the Governing Documents, and to the extent not so stated, the general and implied powers of a property owners association and a nonprofit corporation organized under the law of the State of Texas. Generally, the Association may do any and all things that are lawful and necessary, proper, or desirable in operating for the peace, health, comfort, and general benefit of its Members, subject only to the limitations on the exercise of such powers as stated in the Governing Documents. The Association comes into existence on the earlier

of (1) issuance of its corporate charter of (2) the initial levy of Assessments against the Lots and Owners. The Association will continue to exist at least as long as the Declaration is effective against the Property, regardless of whether its corporate charter lapses from time to time.

EVERY OWNER OF A LAKERIDGE RANCHES LOT AUTOMATICALLY JOINS A MANDATORY MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATION.

- 6.3. **GOVERNANCE.** The Association will be governed by a Board of elected¹ Directors. Unless the Association's Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation provide otherwise, the Board will consist of at least 3 persons elected at the annual meeting of the Association, or at a special meeting called for that purpose. The Association will be administered in accordance with the Bylaws. Unless the Governing Documents provide otherwise, any action requiring approval of the Members may be approved in writing by Owners of at least a majority of all Lots, or at a meeting by Owners of at least a majority of the Lots that are represented at the meeting.
- 6.4. **MEMBERSHIP.** Each Owner is a Member of the Association, ownership of a Lot being the sole qualification for membership. Membership is appurtenant to and may not be separated from ownership of the Lot. The Board may require satisfactory evidence of transfer of ownership before a purported Owner is entitled to vote at meetings of the Association. If a Lot is owned by more than one person or entity, each co-owner is a Member of the Association and may exercise the membership rights appurtenant to the Lot. A Member who sells his Lot under a contract for deed may delegate his membership rights to the contract purchaser, provided a written assignment is delivered to the Board. However, the contract seller remains liable for all Assessments attributable to his Lot until fee title to the Lot is transferred.
- 6.5. **CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING.** One vote is appurtenant to each Lot. The total number of votes equals the total number of Lots in the Property. Each vote is uniform and equal to the vote appurtenant to every other Lot, except during the Development Period as permitted in **Exhibit B**. Cumulative voting is not allowed. Votes may be cast by written proxy, according to the requirements of the Association's bylaws.

The Association shall have two (2) classes of voting membership:

- 6.5.1. **Class A.** Class A Members shall be all Members with the exception of Declarant. Class A Members shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot in which they hold the interest required for membership; provided, however, that in the event that more than one (1) person holds such interest or interests in any Lot, even though all such persons shall be Members, there shall be only one (1) vote for such Lot, which shall be exercised as they, among themselves, determine (but in no event shall more than one (1) vote be cast with respect to any such Lot).
- 6.5.2. **Class B.** The Class B Member(s) shall be the Declarant. Until such time as the Declarant has sold all of the Lots in the Property and for a period of one (1) year

¹ Election by the members is the ultimate goal of the Declarant. Notwithstanding, during the Development Period and/or Declarant Control Period, the Board of Directors may be appointed/elected as set forth in the provisions of this Declaration, which cover and stipulate the rights of the Declarant during the respective time periods.

after the closing of the sale of the last Lot, the Class B Member shall have the sole right to elect the Board of Directors of the Association. Control of the Association shall only be vested in the Owners after completion of transfer to Class A Members of title to all of the Lots in the Property and the expiration of one (1) year from the closing of the sale of the last Lot. The Declarant shall have four (4) votes for each Lot it owns.

6.5.3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, the Declarant may elect to annex other property adjacent or contiguous to the Property to become part of this Declaration as set forth in Section 12.3 below.

6.6. VOTING BY CO-OWNERS. The one vote appurtenant to a Lot is not divisible. If only one of the multiple co-owners of a Lot is present at a meeting of the Association, that person may cast the vote allocated to the Lot. If more than one of the co-owners is present, the Lot's one vote may be cast with the co-owners' unanimous agreement. Co-owners are in unanimous agreement if one of the co-owners casts the vote by ballot or proxy by the other co-owners. If the person presiding over the meeting or balloting receives evidence that the co-owners disagree on how the one appurtenant vote will be cast, the vote will not be counted.

6.7. BOOKS & RECORDS. The Association will maintain copies of the Governing Documents and the Association's books, records, and financial statements. Books and records of the Association will be made available for inspection and copying pursuant to Article 1396-2.23-B. of the Texas Nonprofit Corporation Act.

6.8. INDEMNIFICATION. The Association indemnifies every officer, director, and committee member (for purposes of the Section, "Leaders") against expenses, including attorney's fees, reasonably incurred by or imposed on the Leader in connection with an action, suit, or proceeding to which the Leader is a party by reason of being or having been a Leader. A Leader is not liable for a mistake of judgment, negligent or otherwise. This right to indemnification does not exclude any other rights to which present or former Leaders may be entitled, but does not include actions or claims arising out of the gross negligence or willful misconduct of a Leader. The Association may maintain general liability and directors and officers liability insurance to fund this obligation.

6.9. OBLIGATIONS OF OWNERS. Without limiting the obligations of Owners under the Governing Documents, each Owner has the following obligations:

6.9.1. Information. Within 30 days after acquiring an interest in a Lot, within 30 days after the Owner has notice of a change in any information required by this Subsection, and on request by the Association from time to time, an Owner will provide the Association with the following information: (1) a copy of the recorded deed by which Owner has title to the Lot; (2) the Owner's address, phone number, and driver's license number, if any; (3) any mortgagee's name, address, and loan number; (4) the name and phone number of any resident other than the Owner; (5) the name, address, and phone number of Owner's managing agent, if any.

6.9.2. Pay Assessments. Each Owner will pay Assessments properly levied by the Association against the Owner or his Lot, and will pay Regular Assessments without demand by the Association.

- 6.9.3. Comply. Each Owner will comply with the Governing Documents as amended or restated from time to time.
- 6.9.4. Reimburse. Each Owner will pay for damage to the Property caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the Owner, a resident of the Owner's Lot, or the Owner or resident's family, guest, employees, contractors, agents, or invitees.
- 6.9.5. Liability. Each Owner is liable to the Association for violations of the Governing Documents by the Owner, a resident of the Owner's Lot, or the Owner or resident's family, guest, employees, agents of invitees, and for cost incurred by the Association to obtain compliance, including attorney's fees whether or not suit is filed.
- 6.10. TRANSFER-RELATED FEES. A number of independent fees may be charged in relation to the transfer of title to a Lot, including but not limited to fees for resale certificates, estoppel certificates, copies of the Governing Documents, compliance inspections, ownership record changes, and priority processing, provided the fees are customary in amount, kind, and number for the local marketplace. Transfer-related fees are not refundable and may not be regarded as a prepayment of or credit against Regular or Special Assessments. Transfer-related fees do not apply to the following transfers unless a party to the transfer requests the corresponding documentation: (1) foreclosure of a deed of trust lien, tax lien, or the Association's Assessment lien; (2) transfer to, from, or by the Association. Transfer-related fees may be charged by the Association or by the Association's managing agent, provided there is no duplication of fees. Transfer-related fees charged by or paid to a managing agent must have the prior written approval of the Association, are not subject to the Association's Assessment lien, and are not payable by the Association. This Section does not obligate the Board or the managing agent to levy transfer-related fees.

ARTICLE 7 COVENANT FOR ASSESSMENTS

- 7.1. PURPOSES OF ASSESSMENTS. The Association will use Assessments for the general purposes of preserving and enhancing the Property, and for the common benefit of Owners and residents, including but not limited to maintenance of real and personal property, management and operation of the Association, and any expense reasonably related to the purposes for which the Property was developed. **ABSENT FRAUD, THE BOARD'S DECISION WITH RESPECT TO THE USE OF ASSESSMENTS IS FINAL.**
- 7.2. PERSONAL OBLIGATION. An Owner is obligated to pay Assessments levied by the Board against the Owner or his Lot. An Owner makes payment to the Association at its principal office or at any other place the Board directs. Payments must be in full regardless of whether an Owner has a dispute with the Board, ACC or with the Association, another Owner, or any other person or entity regarding any matter to which this Declaration pertains. No Owner may exempt himself from his Assessment liability by waiver of the use or enjoyment of the Common Area or by abandonment of his Lot. An Owner's obligation is not subject to offset by the Owner, nor is it contingent on the Association's performance of the Association's duties. Payment of Assessment is both a continuing

affirmative covenant personal to the Owner and a continuing covenant running with the Lot.

**IF YOU OWN A LAKERIDGE RANCHES LOT, YOU MUST PAY
ASSESSMENTS TO THE ASSOCIATION.**

- 7.3. CONTROL FOR ASSESSMENT INCREASES. Until January 1 of the year immediately following the conveyance of the first Lot to any Owner, the maximum annual Assessment shall be Two Thousand Five Hundred and No/100 Dollars (\$2,500.00) per Lot per year. Thereafter the Board may increase the Maintenance Assessment annually to meet the anticipated needs of the appropriate budget, but the Maintenance Assessment may not be increased in any year by an amount in excess of twenty percent (20%) above the previous year's Maintenance Assessment, unless such increase is approved by a majority vote of those Members of the Association present at a meeting, in person or by proxy, where a quorum exists.
- 7.4. TYPE OF ASSESSMENTS. There are 3 types of Assessments: Regular, Special, and Individual.
- 7.4.1. Regular Assessments. Regular Assessments are based on the annual budget. Each Lot is liable for its equal share of the annual budget. If the Board does not approve an annual budget or fails to determine new Regular Assessments for any year, or delays in doing so, Owners will continue to pay the regular Assessments as last determined. Regular Assessments are used for common expenses related to the reoccurring, periodic, and anticipated responsibilities of the Association, including but not limited to:
- a. Maintenance, repair, and replacement, as necessary, of any portion of the Common Area.
 - b. Utilities billed to the Association.
 - c. Services billed to the Association and serving or benefiting all Lots.
 - d. Costs and repairs to maintain the water wells/lakes and Common Area water features, fountains, monuments, entry and exit gates, landscape and tree lighting, etc.
 - e. Taxes on property owned by the Association and the Association's income taxes.
 - f. Management, legal, accounting, auditing, and professional fees for services to the Association.
 - g. Costs of operating the Association, such as telephone, postage, office supplies, printing, meeting expenses, and educational opportunities of benefit to the Association.
 - h. Premiums and deductibles on insurance policies and bonds deemed by the Board to be necessary or desirable for the benefit of the Association, including fidelity bonds and directors and officers liability insurance.
 - i. Contributions to the reserve funds.
 - j. Any other expense which the Association is required by law or the Governing Documents to pay, or which in the opinion of the Board is necessary or proper for the operation and maintenance of the Property or for enforcement of the Governing Documents.

7.4.2. Special Assessments. In addition to Regular Assessments, and subject to the Owners' control for Assessment increases, the Board may levy one or more Special Assessments against all Lots for the purpose of defraying, in whole or in part, common expenses not anticipated by the annual budget or reserve funds. Special Assessments do not require the approval of the Owners, except that Special Assessments for the purposes provided hereafter must be approved by Owners of least a majority vote of those Members of the Association present at a meeting, in person or by proxy, at which a quorum exists. At least fifteen (15) days prior to any meeting of the Association called to consider any Special Assessment, the Board shall notify each Owner thereof by written notice specifying the total amount of the Special Assessment required, the amount thereof imposed on each Lot (which shall be uniform), the purpose for such Special Assessment, and the time and method of payment thereof. Special Assessments for the following purposes shall require approval under the terms set forth in this provision:

- a. Acquisition of real property, other than the purchase of a Lot at the sale foreclosing the Association's lien against the Lot;
- b. Construction of additional improvements within the Property;
- c. Any expenditure that may reasonably be expected to significantly increase the Association's responsibility and financial obligation for operations, insurance, maintenance, repairs, or replacement.

7.4.3. Individual Assessments. In addition to Regular and Special Assessments, the Board may levy an Individual Assessment against a Lot and its Owner. Individual Assessments may include, but are not limited to: interest, late charges overhead, and collection costs on delinquent Assessments; reimbursements for costs incurred in bringing an Owner or his Lot into compliance with the Governing Documents; fines for violations of the Governing Documents; insurance deductibles; transfer-related fees and resale certificate fees; fees for estoppel letters and project documents; reimbursement for damage or waste caused by willful or negligent acts; common expenses that benefit fewer than all of the Lots, which may be assessed according to benefit received; fees or charges levied against the Association on a per-Lot basis; and "pass through" expenses for services to Lots provided through the Association and which are equitably paid by each Lot according to benefit received.

7.5. BASIS & RATE OF ASSESSMENTS. The share of liability for common expenses allocated to each Lot is uniform for all Lots, regardless of a Lot's location or the value and size of the Lot or dwelling, but subject to lower rates of Assessment for vacant Lots. The rates of Assessment area as follows:

7.5.1. Improved Lot. A Lot that has been improved with a dwelling for which the County has issued the initial certificate of occupancy will at all times thereafter be assessed at the full rate.

7.5.2. Lots Owned by Declarant. Notwithstanding preceding subsection, Declarant shall not be liable for Assessments for any Lots that it owns. Declarant may, but shall have no obligation to, subsidize the Association from time to time. In the event Declarant decides to subsidize the Association and any shortfall in the operating

budget of the Association is due in part to the failure of the Association to collect delinquent Assessments, then the Association shall immediately and vigorously pursue collection of such delinquent Assessments through foreclosure, if necessary, and shall reimburse the Declarant the amounts, if any, so collected during the Development Period. Declarant is subject to the Assessment exemption in **Exhibit B**.

Loans by Declarant. Declarant may, but is not obligated to, lend funds to the Association to enable it to defray its expenses, provided the terms of such loans are on reasonable market conditions at the time. **The Association shall be required to repay such funds, and Declarant shall have a lien on the Common Areas of the Association and on all unsold Lots for the repayment of any such funds loaned by Declarant to the Association.**

- 7.6. ANNUAL BUDGET. The Board will prepare and approve an estimated annual budget for each fiscal year. The budget will take into account the estimated income and expenses for the year, contributions to reserve funds, and a projection for uncollected receivables.
- 7.7. DUE DATE. The Board may levy Regular Assessments on any periodic basis – annually, semi-annually, quarterly, or monthly. Regular Assessments are due on the first day of the period for which levied. Special and Individual Assessments are due on the date stated in the notice of or, if no date is stated, within 10 days after notice of the Assessment is given. Assessments are delinquent if not received by the Association on or before the due date.
- 7.8. ASSOCIATION’S RIGHT TO BORROW MONEY. The Association is granted the right to borrow money, subject to the consent of Owners of at least a majority of Lots and the ability of the Association to repay the borrowed funds from Assessments. To assist its ability to borrow, the Association is granted the right to encumber, mortgage, pledge, or deed in trust any of its real or personal property, and the right to assign its right to future income, as security for money borrowed or debts incurred, provided that the rights of the lender in the pledged property are subordinate and inferior to the rights of the Owners hereunder.
- 7.9. ASSESSMENT LIEN. Each Owner, by accepting an interest in or title to a Lot, whether or not it is so expressed in the instrument of conveyance, covenants and agrees to pay Assessments to the Association. Each Assessment is a charge on the Lot and is secured by a continuing lien on the Lot. Each Owner and each prospective Owner is placed on notice that his title may be subject to the continuing lien for Assessments attributable to a period prior to the date he purchased his Lot.
 - 7.9.1. Superiority of Assessment Lien. The Assessment lien is superior to all other liens and encumbrances on a Lot, except only for (1) real property taxes and Assessments levied by governmental and taxing authorities, (2) a deed of trust or vendor’s lien recorded before this Declaration, (3) a recorded deed of trust lien securing a loan for construction of the original dwelling, and (4) a first or senior purchase money vendor’s lien or deed of trust lien recorded before the date on which the delinquent Assessment became due.
 - 7.9.2. Effect of Foreclosure. Foreclosure of a superior lien extinguishes the Association’s claim against the Lot for unpaid Assessments that became due before

the sale, but does not extinguish the Association's claim against the former Owner. The purchaser at the foreclosure sale is liable for Assessments coming due from and after the date of the sale, and for the Owner's pro rata share of the pre-foreclosure deficiency as an Association expense.

7.9.3. Perfection of Lien. The Association's lien for Assessments is created by recordation of this Declaration, which constitutes record notice and perfection of the lien. No other recordation of a lien or notice of lien is required. However, the Association, at its option, may cause a notice of the lien to be recorded in the court's real property records.

7.9.4. Power of Sale. Except to the extent prohibited by applicable law, by accepting an interest in or title to a Lot, each Owner grants to the Association a private power of nonjudicial sale in connection with the Association's Assessment lien. The Board may appoint, from time to time, any person, including an officer, agent, trustee, substitute trustee, or attorney, to exercise the Association's lien rights on behalf of the Association, including the power of sale. The appointment must be in writing and may be in the form of a resolution recorded in the minutes of a Board meeting.

7.9.5. Foreclosure of Lien. The Assessment lien may be enforced by judicial or nonjudicial foreclosure. A nonjudicial foreclosure must be conducted in accordance with the provisions applicable to the exercise of powers of sale as set forth in Section 51.002 of the Texas Property Code, or in any manner permitted by law. In any foreclosure, the Owner is required to pay the Association's costs and expenses for the proceedings, including reasonable attorneys' fees. The Association has the power to bid on the Lot at foreclosure sale and to acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, and convey same.

7.10. LIMITATIONS OF INTEREST. The Association, and its officers, directors, managers, and attorneys, intend to conform strictly to the applicable usury laws of the State of Texas. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Governing Documents or any other document or agreement executed or made in connection with the Association's collection of Assessments, the Association will not in any event be entitled to receive or collect, as interest, a sum greater than the maximum amount permitted by applicable law. If from any circumstances whatsoever, the Association ever receives, collects, or applies as interest a sum in excess of the maximum rate permitted by law, the excess amount will be applied to the reduction of unpaid special and regular Assessments, or reimbursed to the Owner if those Assessments are paid in full.

ARTICLE 8

EFFECT OF NONPAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND VIOLATION OF THE DOCUMENTS

8.1. COLLECTING DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS. An Assessment is delinquent if the Association does not receive payment in full by the Assessment's due date. The Association, acting through its Board, is responsible for taking action to collect delinquent Assessments. Neither the Board nor the Association, however, is liable to an Owner or other person for its failure or inability to collect or attempt to collect an Assessment. The following remedies are in addition to and not in substitution for all other rights and remedies, which the Association has.

- 8.1.1. Interest. Delinquent Assessments are subject to interest from the due date until paid, at a rate to be determined by the Board from time to time, not to exceed the lesser of 18 percent or the maximum permitted by law. If the Board fails to establish a rate, the rate is 12 percent per annum.
 - 8.1.2. Late Fees. Delinquent Assessments are subject to reasonable late fees, at a rate to be determined by the Board from time to time.
 - 8.1.3. Costs of Collection. The Owner of a Lot against which Assessments are delinquent is liable to the Association for reimbursement of reasonable costs incurred by the Association to collect the delinquent Assessments, including attorney's fees and processing fees paid by the Association for the collection thereof.
 - 8.1.4. Acceleration. If an Owner defaults in paying an Assessment that is payable in installments, the Association may accelerate the remaining installments on 10 days' written notice to the defaulting Owner.
 - 8.1.5. Suspension of Use and Vote. If an Owner's account has been delinquent for at least 30 days, the Association may suspend the right of Owners and residents to use Common Areas and common services during the period of delinquency. The Association may also suspend the right to vote appurtenant to the Lot. Suspension does not constitute a waiver or discharge of the Owner's obligation to pay Assessments
 - 8.1.6. Money Judgment. The Association may file suit seeking a money judgment against an Owner delinquent in the payment of Assessments, without foreclosing or waiving the Association's lien for Assessments.
 - 8.1.7. Foreclosure of Assessment Lien. As provided by this Declaration, the Association may foreclose its lien against the Lot by judicial or nonjudicial means.
 - 8.1.8. Application of Payments. The Board may adopt and amend policies regarding the application of payments. After the Association notifies the Owner of a delinquency, any payment received by the Association may be applied in the following order: Individual Assessments, Special Assessments, and (lastly) regular monthly Assessments. The Association may refuse to accept partial payments, i.e., less than the full amount due and payable. The Association may also refuse to accept payments to which the payer attaches conditions or directions contrary to the Board's policy for applying payments. The Association's policy may provide that endorsement and deposit of a payment does not constitute acceptance by the Association, and that acceptance occurs when the Association posts the payment to the Lot's account.
- 8.2. ENFORCING THE DOCUMENTS. The remedies provided in this Section for breach of the Governing Documents are cumulative and not exclusive. In addition to other rights and remedies provided by the Governing Documents and by law, the Association has the following right to enforce the Governing Documents:

- 8.2.1. Nuisance. The result of every act or omission that violates any provision of the Governing Documents is a nuisance, and any remedy allowed by law against a nuisance, either public or private, is applicable against the violation.
- 8.2.2. Fine. The Association may levy reasonable charges, as an Individual Assessment, against an Owner and his Lot if the Owner or resident, or the Owner or resident's family, guests, employees, agents, or contractors violate a provision of the Governing Documents. Fines may be levied for each act of violation or for each day a violation continues, and does not constitute a waiver or discharge of the Owner's obligations under Governing Documents.
- 8.2.3. Suspension. The Association may suspend the right of Owners and residents to use Common Areas (with the exception of streets) for any period during which the Owner or resident, or the Owner or resident's family, guests, employees, agents, or contractors violate the Governing Documents. A suspension does not constitute a waiver or discharge of the Owner's obligations under the Governing Documents.
- 8.2.4. Self-Help. The Association has the right to enter any part of the Property, including Lots, to abate or remove, using force, as may reasonably be necessary, any erection, thing, animal, person, vehicle, or condition that violates the Governing Documents. In exercising this right, the Board is not trespassing and is not liable for damages related to the abatement. The Board may levy its costs of abatement against the Lot and Owner as an Individual Assessment. Unless an emergency situation exists in the good faith opinion of the Board, the Board will give the violating Owner 15 days' notice of its intent to exercise self-help.
- 8.2.5. Suit. Failure to comply with the Governing Documents will be grounds for an action to recover damages or for injunctive relief to cause any such violation to be remedied, or both. Prior to commencing any legal proceeding, the Association will give the defaulting party reasonable notice and an opportunity to cure the violation.
- 8.2.6. No Waiver. The Association and every Owner has the right to enforce all restrictions, conditions, covenants, liens, and charges now or hereafter imposed by the Governing Documents. Failure by the Association or by any Owner to enforce a provision of the Governing Documents is not a waiver of the right to do so thereafter. If the Association does waive the right to enforce a provision, that waiver does not impair the Association's right to enforce any part of the Governing Documents at any future time.
- 8.2.7. No Liability. No officer, director, or Member of the Association is liable to any Owner for the failure to enforce any of the Governing Documents at any time.
- 8.2.8. Recovery of Costs. The costs of curing or abating a violation are at the expense of the Owner or other person responsible for the violation. If legal assistance is obtained to enforce any provision of the Governing Documents, or in any legal proceeding (whether or not suit is brought) for damages or for the enforcement of the Governing Documents or the restraint of violations of the Governing Documents, the prevailing party is entitled to recover from the nonprevailing party

all reasonable and necessary costs incurred by it in such action, including reasonable attorney's fees.

- 8.3. NOTICE AND HEARING. Before levying a fine for violation of the Governing Documents (other than nonpayment of Assessments), or before levying an individual Assessment for property damage, the Association will give the Owner written notice of the levy and an opportunity to be heard before the Board. The Association may also give a copy of the notice to the resident if not the same person as the Owner. Pending the hearing, the Association may continue to exercise its other rights and remedies for the violation, as if the declared violation were valid. The Owner's request for a hearing suspends only the levy of a fine or damage charge. The Owner may attend the hearing in person, or may be represented by another person or written communication. The Board may adopt additional procedures and requirements for notices and hearing.

ARTICLE 9
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR BY THE ASSOCIATION

- 9.1. ASSOCIATION MAINTAINS. The Association shall have the right, but shall not be deemed obligated, to maintain, repair, and/or replace as a common expense, the portions of the Property listed below, regardless of whether the portions are on Lots or Common Areas.
- a. The Common Areas, including, without limitation.
 - b. Any real and personal property owned by the Association but which is not a Common Area, such as a Lot owned by the Association.
 - c. Any area, item, easement, or service – the maintenance of which is assigned to the Association by this Declaration or by the plat.
- 9.2. OWNER RESPONSIBILITY. Every Owner has the following responsibilities and obligations for the maintenance, repair, and replacement of the Property:
- 9.2.1. House Maintenance. Each Owner, at the Owner's expense, must maintain all improvements on the Lot, including but not limited to the dwelling, fences, sidewalks, and driveways. Maintenance includes preventative maintenance, repair as needed. Each Owner is expected to maintain his Lot's improvements at a level, to a standard, and with an appearance that is commensurate with the neighborhood. Specifically, each Owner must repair and replace worn, rotten, deteriorated, and unattractive materials, and must regularly repaint all painted surfaces.
- 9.2.2. Yard Maintenance. Each Owner, at the Owner's expense, must maintain the yards on his Lot at a level, to a standard, and with an appearance that is commensurate with the neighborhood. Specifically, each Owner must:
- a. Maintain an attractive ground cover of lawn on all yards visible from a street.
 - b. Edge the street curbs at regular intervals.
 - c. Mow the lawns and grounds at regular intervals.
 - d. Prevent lawn weeds or grass from exceeding 6 inches in height.
 - e. Not plant vegetable gardens that are visible from a street.

- 9.2.3. Responsible for Damage. An Owner is responsible for his own willful or negligent acts and those of his or the resident's family, guests, agents, employees, or contractors when those acts necessitate maintenance, repair, or replacement to the Common Areas or the property of another Owner.
- 9.3. OWNER'S DEFAULT IN MAINTENANCE. If the Board determines that an Owner has failed to properly discharge his obligation to maintain, repair, and replace items from which the Owner is responsible, the Board may give the Owner written notice of the Association's intent to provide the necessary maintenance at Owner's expense. The notice must state, with reasonable particularity, the maintenance deemed necessary and a reasonable period of time in which to complete the work. If the Owner fails or refuses to timely perform the maintenance, the Association may do so at the Owner's expense, which is an Individual Assessment against the Owner and his Lot. In case of an emergency, however, the Board's responsibility to give the Owner written notice may be waived and the Board may take any action it deems necessary to protect persons or property, the cost of the action being the Owner's expense.
- 9.4. SPECIAL FENCING. Declarant and/or the Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, to erect and/or install fences, walls and/or screening landscaping within (a) that portion of any Lot situated along the perimeter of the Addition(s), as shown on a Final Plat, or (b) on any portion of the Property not comprising any portion of a Lot or dedicated street or alley. THE ASSOCIATION, AT ITS EXPENSE, SHALL BE OBLIGATED AND REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN, REPAIR AND/OR REPLACE SUCH FENCES, WALLS AND/OR SCREENING LANDSCAPING WITHIN (A) THAT PORTION OF ANY LOT SITUATED ALONG THE PERIMETER OF THE ADDITION ADJACENT TO A PUBLIC STREET, AS SHOWN ON A FINAL PLAT. IT SHALL BE THE OBLIGATION OF THE LOT OWNER TO MAINTAIN ANY SPECIAL FENCING INSTALLED BY DECLARANT THAT IS ADJACENT TO ANY PUBLIC PARK OR PRIVATE PROPERTY AND THE ASSOCIATION SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT, BUT NOT THE OBLIGATION, TO MAINTAIN, REPAIR AND/OR REPLACE THE SPECIAL FENCING INSTALLED BY DECLARANT THAT IS ADJACENT TO ANY PRIVATE OR PUBLIC PARK OR PRIVATE PROPERTY.
- 9.5. SPECIAL LANDSCAPING. Declarant and/or the Association shall have the right to grade, plant and/or landscape and maintain, repair, replace and/or change such grading, planting and landscaping on any portion of the Property not comprising any portion of a Lot or a dedicated street or alley or on any land dedicated to the County or on any portion of a Lot over which an easement has been reserved for the benefit of the Association.
- 9.6. DECLARANT'S DISCRETION. Notwithstanding any provisions herein to the contrary, the Declarant shall not be obligated to erect, install, maintain, repair or replace any fences, walls, sprinkler systems, grading, planting or landscaping on the Property.
- 9.7. TWENTY-YEAR LIMITATION. The provisions of this Section 9 regarding Declarant's rights shall terminate and be of no further force and effect from and after that date which is twenty (20) years after the recording of this Declaration. The rights of the Association shall continue throughout the term hereof.

ARTICLE 10
INSURANCE

- 10.1. **GENERAL PROVISIONS.** The provisions of this Article, with which the Board will make every reasonable effort to comply, govern all insurance affecting the Property. The cost of insurance coverage and bonds maintained by the Association is an expense of the Association. Insurance policies and bonds obtained and maintained by the Association must be issued by responsible insurance companies authorized to do business in the State of Texas. The Association must be the named insured on all policies obtained by the Association. Each Owner irrevocably appoints the Association, acting through its Board, as his trustee to negotiate, receive, administer, and distribute the proceeds of any claim against an insurance policy maintained by the Association. Additionally:
- 10.1.1. **Notice of Cancellation or Modification.** Each insurance policy maintained by the Association should contain a provision requiring the insurer to give at least 10 days' prior written notice to the Board before the policy may be canceled, terminated, materially modified, or allowed to expire, by either the insurer or the insured.
- 10.1.2. **Deductions.** An insurance policy obtained by the Association may contain a reasonable deductible, which will be paid by the party who would be liable for the loss or repair in the absence of insurance. If a loss is due wholly or partly to an act or omission of an Owner or resident or their invitees, the Owner must reimburse the Association for the amount of the deductible that is attributable to the act or omission, within the limits of the law of the State of Texas.
- 10.2. **PROPERTY.** To the extent it is reasonably available, the Association will obtain blanket all – risk insurance for insurable Common Area improvements. If blanket all-risk insurance is not reasonably available, then the Association will obtain an insurance policy providing fire and extended coverage. Also, the Association will insure the improvements on any Lot owned by the Association.
- 10.3. **GENERAL LIABILITY.** The Association shall use best efforts to maintain a commercial general liability insurance policy over Common Areas—expressly excluding the liability of each Owner and Resident within his Lot – for bodily injury and property damage resulting from the operation, maintenance, or use of the Common Areas. If the policy does not contain a severability of interest provision, it should contain an endorsement to preclude the insurer's denial of an Owner's claim because of negligent acts of the Association of other Owners.
- 10.4. **DIRECTOR & OFFICERS LIABILITY.** To the extent it is reasonably available, the Association will maintain directors and officers liability insurance, errors and omissions insurance, indemnity bonds, or other insurance the Board deems advisable to insure the Association's directors, officers, committee members, and managers against liability for an act or omission in carrying out their duties in those capacities.
- 10.5. **OTHER COVERAGES.** The Association may maintain any insurance policies and bonds deemed by the Board to be necessary or desirable for the benefit of the Association.

- 10.6. OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSURANCE. Each Owner will obtain and maintain fire and extended coverage on all the improvements on his Lot, in an amount sufficient to cover 100 percent of the replacement cost of any repair or reconstruction in event of damage or destruction from any insured hazard. Further, each Owner will obtain and maintain general liability insurance on his Lot. Each Owner and resident is solely responsible for insuring his personal property in his dwelling and on the Lot, including furnishings, vehicles, and stored items.

ARTICLE 11 AMENDMENTS

- 11.1. CONSENTS REQUIRED. As permitted by this Declaration, certain amendments of this Declaration may be executed by Declarant alone, or by the Board alone. Otherwise, Owners of at least a majority of the Lots must approve amendments to this Declaration.
- 11.2. METHOD OF AMENDMENT. Except as provided in Article 12 below, at any time, the Owners may amend the Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions and/or any provision(s) set forth herein by executing an instrument containing such amendment(s) and recording same in the appropriate Property Records of the County; provided, however, that (i) for the period which the Declarant owns at least one Lot or easement no such amendment shall be valid or effective without the joinder and consent of Declarant and (ii) except as provided in Article 12 below, the procedure for such amendment shall first be approved by a 60 percent vote of the Association's Members.
- 11.2. TERMINATION. Except as provided in Article 12 below, at any time, the Owners may terminate and extinguish these Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions in their entirety by executing an instrument terminating such Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions and recording same in the appropriate Property Records of the County, provided, however, that (i) for the period in which the Declarant owns at least one Lot or easement, no such termination shall be valid or effective without the joinder and consent of Declarant and (ii) except as provided in Article 12 below, the procedure for such amendment shall first be approved by at least 60 percent of the votes of the Association's Members.
- 11.3. CONDEMNATION. In any proceeding, negotiation, settlement, or agreement concerning condemnation of the Common Area, the Association will be the exclusive representative of the Owners. The Association may use condemnation proceeds to repair and replace any damage or destruction of the Common Area, real or personal, caused by the condemnation. Any condemnation proceeds remaining after completion, or waiver, of the repair and replacement will be deposited in the Association's reserve funds.

ARTICLE 12 DECLARANT RIGHTS

- 12.1. SPECIFIC DECLARANTS RIGHTS. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary (in the event of any provision herein is in contradiction to this Article 12, in whole or in part, this Article 12 shall prevail), so long as Declarant, its successors or assigns, owns at least one (1) Lot or easement, Declarant shall have the sole right, but not the obligation, in its sole discretion, at any time, effective as of the date hereof, to control, perform and/or conduct the following:

- 12.1.1. Appoint (including itself) and/or substitute at any time the Board of Directors.
- 12.1.2. Terminate any or all of the Board of Directors.
- 12.1.3. Amend the Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions and any other Provisions under this Declaration, in whole or in part.
- 12.1.4. Enforce the Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions and other provisions provided for under this Declaration.
- 12.1.5. Review, determine and enforce the architectural control of the Lots, including the right to appoint the panel of the Architectural Control Committee.
- 12.1.6. Appoint, enlist, hire and/or retain a property management company in behalf of the Association as well as the right to terminate the services of any such management company at the Declarant's sole discretion.
- 12.1.7. Assigns its rights and obligations under this Declaration to any entity at any time, in whole or in part.
- 12.1.8. Have the authority to approve or disapprove any and all Phases and/or street right-of-way access, either public or private, to the Property from adjacent land.
- 12.2. DECLARANT'S SOLE DISCRETION. Declarant's rights set forth above are absolute in its sole discretion and do not require the approval, consent, or joinder of (i) any Owner, (ii) the Association, (iii) the Board of Directors, or (iv) any committees or other parties which may be established with respect hereto. At such time as the Declarant no longer owns a Lot or easement within the Property, all of such rights of enforcement shall revert to the Board of Directors of the Association.
- 12.3. RIGHTS TO ANNEX. Declarant may annex additional property to become a portion of the Property and thereafter be subject to the terms, provisions and conditions of these Covenants, provided that so long as the Class B membership exists, any such annexation by Declarant may require the prior approval of HUD or VA. Declarant may exercise such right by recording a Supplement to this Declaration in the Records of Parker County, Texas subjecting such additional property to the terms and conditions hereof. No further action or approval shall be required or necessary for the Declarant to annex additional properties into the Property for the purpose of subjecting it to the Covenants. Any document subjecting additional property to the Declaration may also impose additional restrictions not found in this Declaration upon such additional property. Upon the annexation and platting of any additional property as herein provided, each Lot described therein shall become a "Lot" for all purposes hereunder. Declarant reserves an exclusive right to control any and all future phases to **LakeRidge Ranches** and such right shall survive the Declarant Control Period as set forth herein.
- 12.4. NO DUTY TO ANNEX. Nothing herein contained shall establish any duty or obligation on the part of Declarant or any Member to annex any property to this Declaration and no Owner of the property excluded from this Declaration shall have any right to have such property annexed thereto.

- 12.5. EFFECT OF ANNEXATION ON CLASS B MEMBERSHIP. In determining the number of Lots owned by Declarant for the purpose of Class B membership status the total number of Lots covered by this Declaration, including all Lots annexed thereto shall be considered. If Class B membership has previously lapsed but annexation of additional property restores the ratio of Lots owned by Declarant to the number required by Class B membership, such Class B membership shall be reinstated until it expires pursuant to the terms set forth in Section 6 and as may be found herein.
- 12.6. SPECIFIC DECLARANT RIGHTS TO AMEND DECLARATION. Declarant without joinder of the Board, the Association, or the other Owners may amend this Declaration to correct any errors or to cause the Declaration to be in compliance with any County or other governmental requirement (including any requirements imposed by the Federal Housing Administration, the Veterans Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Affairs, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, or the Government National Mortgage Association).
- 12.7. EASEMENT/ACCESS RIGHT. Declarant reserves a general easement over all Streets, roads, rights of way, alleys and utility, maintenance, landscaping, wall and other easements in the Property and over the balance of the Common Area for access for the purpose of finishing development of the Property as a subdivision and as otherwise reasonably necessary to effect Declarant's rights hereunder. Such easements and rights shall expire at such time that Declarant no longer owns a Lot.
- 12.8. ASSIGNMENT OF DECLARANT RIGHTS. Declarant may assign its rights to a successor Declarant hereunder by execution of a written document, recorded in Records of Parker County, Texas specifically stating that Declarant has assigned its rights as such to a designated assignee and declaring such assignee to be the new "Declarant" hereunder.
- 12.9. DECLARANT'S RIGHT TO INSTALL IMPROVEMENTS IN SETBACK AND OTHER AREAS. Declarant, in connection with development of the Property and construction of homes thereon, reserves the right but shall have no obligation to install or construct walls, fences, irrigation systems and other improvements in the setback areas (being the area on, along and/or between the boundary line of a Lot and the building or setback lines applicable to such Lot). If Declarant exercises such right in a setback area, then such wall, fence, irrigation system, or other improvement shall be the property of the Owner(s) of the Lot(s) upon which or adjacent to these are located, and such Owner(s) shall maintain and repair any such improvement unless Declarant or the Association, by and through the Board, assumes such maintenance and repair obligations. If Declarant exercises such right in the above-described non-setback areas, then such wall, fence, irrigation system, or other improvement shall be the property of the Association. So long as it owns any Lot, Declarant shall have the right, but not the obligation, to maintain and repair any such non-setback area improvements; otherwise, the Association shall assume the maintenance and repair or it may abandon such improvements at its discretion. If the County requires the maintenance, repair, or removal of any such non-setback area improvements, the Association shall assume such responsibility at its expense. If the Association so abandons such non-setback area improvements or is properly dissolved, then the Owner(s) of the Lot(s) on or adjacent to which such improvements are located shall assume maintenance and repair at its expense.

- 12.10. REPLATTING OR MODIFICATION OF PLAT. From time to time, Declarant reserves the right to replat the Property or to amend or modify the Plat in order to assure a harmonious and orderly development of the Property as herein provided. Declarant may exercise such rights so long as it owns at least one Lot, in which case no joinder of any other Owner shall be required to give effect to such rights. By the acquisition of a Lot, each Owner acknowledges that he has read the Governing Documents and is advised of Declarant's right to replat the Property or to amend or modify the Plat, as Declarant deems necessary, and in Declarant's sole discretion. Moreover, each Owner further acknowledges, accepts and agrees that this right of Declarant is a benefit to each Owner and the Association. Each Owner, by acquisition of a Lot, consents to Declarant's execution of any replat on behalf of the Owner and the Association. However, any such replatting or amendment of the Plat shall be with the purpose of efficiently and economically developing the Property for the purposes herein provided or for compliance with any applicable governmental regulation. Declarant's rights under this Section shall expire at such time Declarant no longer owns a Lot.
- 12.11. LIMITATION OF DECLARANT LIABILITY. The Declarant shall not be responsible or liable for any deficit in the Association's funds. Declarant may, but is under no obligation to, subsidize any liabilities incurred by the Association and the Declarant may, but is not obligated to, lend funds to the Association to enable it to defray its expenses, provided the terms of such loans are on reasonable market conditions at the time. **The Association shall be required to repay such funds, and Declarant shall have a lien on the Common Areas of the Association and on all unsold lots for the repayment of any such funds loaned by Declarant to the Association.**
- 12.12. TERMINATION OF DECLARANT'S RESPONSIBILITIES. In consideration of Declarant's deficit funding of the Association, if any, upon the occurrence of any of the following events: (i) conversion of Declarant's Class B membership status to Class A membership status; (ii) completion of any facilities in the Common Area by Declarant; or (iii) assignment of Declarant's rights hereunder pursuant to Section 12.8, then and in such event Declarant shall be fully released, relieved and forever discharged from any further duty or obligation to the Association or any of its Members as Declarant by reason of the terms and conditions of this Declaration including any amendments thereof or supplements thereto, save and except the duties and obligations, if any, of Declarant as a Class A Member by reason of Declarant's continued ownership of one or more Lots, but not otherwise. Further, and without regard to whether or not Declarant has been released from obligations and duties to the Association, so long as Declarant holds record title to at least one (1) Lot and holds same for sale in the ordinary course of business, neither the Association nor its Board, nor any Member of the Association shall take any action that will impair or adversely affect the rights of the Declarant or cause the Declarant to suffer any financial, legal or other detriment, including but not limited to, any direct or indirect interference with the sale of Lots. In the event there is a breach of this Section, it is acknowledged that any monetary award, which may be available would be an insufficient remedy and therefore, in addition to all other remedies, the Declarant shall be entitled to injunctive relief restraining the Association, its Board or any Member of the Association from further breach of this Section.

ARTICLE 13
GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 13.1. COMPLIANCE. The Owners hereby covenant and agree that the administration of the Association will be in accordance with the provisions of the Governing Documents and applicable laws, regulations, and ordinances, as same may be amended from time to time, of any governmental or quasi-governmental entity having jurisdiction over the Association or Property.
- 13.2. NOTICE. All demands or other notices required to be sent to an Owner or resident by the terms of this Declaration may be sent by ordinary or certified mail, postage prepaid, to the party's last known address as it appears on the records of the Association at the time of mailing. If an Owner fails to give the Association an address from mailing notices, all notices may be sent to the Owner's Lot, and the Owner is deemed to have been given notice, whether or not he actually receives it.
- 13.3. LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION. The terms and provision of each Governing Document are to be liberally construed to give effect to the purposes and intent of the Governing Document. All doubts regarding a provision, including restrictions on the use or alienability of property, will be resolved in favor of the operation of the Association and its enforcement of the Governing Documents, regardless which party seeks enforcement.
- 13.4. SEVERABILITY. Invalidation of any provision of this Declaration by judgment or court order does not affect any other provision, which remains in full force and effect. The effect of a general statement is not limited by the enumeration of specific matters similar to the general.
- 13.5. CAPTIONS. In all Governing Documents, the captions of articles and sections are inserted only for convenience and are in no way to be construed as defining or modifying the text to which they refer. Boxed notices are inserted to alert the reader to certain provision and are not to be construed as defining or modifying the text.
- 13.6. EXHIBITS. The exhibits listed below are attached to this Declaration and incorporated herein by reference. Because **Exhibit B** of this Declaration is destined to become obsolete, beginning 20 years after the date this Declaration is first recorded, this Declaration may be restated, re-recorded, or published without **Exhibit B**, provided the other appendices are not relettered. The automatic expiration and subsequent deletion of **Exhibit B**, does not constitute an amendment of this Declaration. The Appendices to this Declaration include:
- A. Legal Description of the Land Subject to the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions for **LakeRidge Ranches**;
 - B. Legal Description of Undeveloped Property;
 - C. Declarant Representations and Reservations;
 - D. Acknowledgment by Acquisition;
 - E. Sign Specifications;
- 13.7. INTERPRETATION. Whenever used in the Governing Documents, unless the context provides otherwise, a reference to a gender includes all genders. Similarly, a reference to

the singular includes the plural, the plural the singular, where the same would be appropriate.

- 13.8. DURATION. Unless terminated or amended by Owners as permitted herein, the provision of this Declaration run with and bind the Property, and will remain in effect perpetually to the extent permitted by law.

(End of Provisions)

EXHIBIT A

Legal Description of the Land (the Property)
subject to

**“THE DECLARATION OF
COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS
FOR LAKERIDGE RANCHES”**

WHEREAS JRM Land & Cattle Co., LLC, is the Owner of the herein described property: 119.40 acres being more particularly described, as follows:

Being a tract of land in the T. & P. RR. Co. Survey, Section 3, Block 2, Abstract Number 1509 & the T.E Dean Survey, Abstract Number 353, and being further described in the deed to JRM Land & Cattle Company, LLC as recorded under instrument number 2022-35059 and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a 1/2 inch iron round found at the southeast corner of Lot 8, Block 1 of Shadey Creek Estates as recorded in Cabinet F Slide 94

THENCE SOUTH 44°01'39" EAST, with the south right-of-way line of White Settlement Road (a variable width R.O.W.) a distance of 32.78 to a set 1/2 inch capped iron rod inscribed "Barron Stark";

THENCE SOUTH 60°55'54" EAST, with the south right-of-way line of White Settlement Road (a variable width R.O.W.) a distance of 32.46 to a set 1/2 inch capped iron rod inscribed "Barron Stark";

THENCE NORTH 89°02'26" EAST, with the south right-of-way line of White Settlement Rd a distance of 651.66 feet to a 1/2 inch capped iron rod inscribed "Barron Stark";

THENCE SOUTH 01°01'57" EAST, with the west line of the tract described in the deed to JMR Ranch, LP as recorded under instrument number 201410636 Official Public Records, Parker County, Texas (O.P.R.P.C.T.) a distance of 2420.60 feet to a found 1/2 inch iron rod;

THENCE with the north line of the tract described In the deed to Tommy Calvin Lyon, Darrell Joe Lyon & Pamela Gail Lyon Fugua as recorded in Volume 1874, Page 685 (D.R.P.C.T.)

SOUTH 80°38'13" WEST, a distance of 667.79 feet to a 4" metal fence post;

SOUTH 51°39'17" WEST, a distance of 697.94 to a set 1/2-inch capped iron rod inscribed "Barron Stark";

NORTH 66°01'26" WEST, a distance of 771.73 feet to a 1/2-inch capped iron rod inscribed "Barron Stark" set at the beginning of a curve to the right (concave southwesterly) having a radius of 375.00 feet;

CONTINUING with the arc of said curve to the right an arc length of 78.90 feet, passing through a central angle of 12°03'16" (having a chord bearing of NORTH 72°03'04" WEST, a chord distance of 78.75 feet) to a set 1/2-inch capped iron rod inscribed "Barron Stark";

THENCE NORTH 00°57'19" WEST, a distance of 351.03 feet to a found 8" wood post;

THENCE NORTH 00°44'04" WEST, a distance of 1965.74 feet to a set 1/2-inch capped iron rod inscribed "Barron Stark";

THENCE NORTH 89°09'24" EAST, a distance of 75.58 feet to a 1/2-inch capped iron rod inscribed "Barron Stark" set at the southwest corner of Lot 5, Block 1 Holly Ridge Estates as recorded under Cabinet B, Slide 74 Plat Records, Parker County, Texas (P.R.P.C.T.)

THENCE NORTH 01°00'00" WEST, with the west line of the said Rash Bash tract a distance of 151.48 feet to a 1/2 inch capped iron rod inscribed "Barron Stark" set at the southeast corner of the said Lot 8, Block 1;

THENCE NORTH 81°18'10" EAST, a distance of 1212.06 feet returning to the POINT OF BEGINNING and enclosing 119.40 Acres (5,201,051 Square Feet) more or less.

This land, together with any additional lands annexed pursuant to Article II of this Declaration, is referred to as "LakeRidge Ranches," the "Subdivision," the "Property," or the "Development."

Declarant has established this Declaration to provide a governance structure and a system of standards and procedures for the overall development, administration, maintenance, and preservation of LakeRidge Ranches

(End of Exhibit A)

EXHIBIT B
DECLARANT REPRESENTATIONS & RESERVATIONS

B.1. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

- B.1.1. Introduction. Declarant intends the Declaration to be perpetual and understands that provisions pertaining to the initial development, construction, marketing, and control of the Property will become obsolete when Declarant's role is complete. As a courtesy to future users of the Declaration, who may be frustrated by then-obsolete terms, Declarant is compiling the Declarant-related provisions in this Appendix.
- B.1.2. General Reservation & Construction. Notwithstanding other provisions of the Governing Documents to the contrary, nothing contained therein may be construed to, nor may any mortgagee, other Owner, or the Association, prevent or interfere with the rights contained in this Appendix, which Declarant hereby reserves exclusively unto itself and its successors and assigns. In case of conflict between this Appendix and any other Governing Document, this Appendix controls. The Appendix may not be amended without the prior written consent of Declarant. The terms and provisions of this Appendix must be construed liberally to give effect to Declarant's intent to protect Declarant's interests in the Property.
- B.1.3. Purpose of Development and Declarant Control Periods. This Appendix gives Declarant certain rights during the Development Period and the Declarant Control Period to ensure a complete and orderly build out and sellout of the Property, which is ultimately for the benefit and protection of Owners and mortgagees.

B.2. DECLARANT CONTROL PERIOD RESERVATION. Declarant reserves the following powers, rights and duties during the Declarant Control Period:

- B.2.1. Officers & Directors. During the Declarant Control Period, Declarant may appoint, remove and replace any officer or director of the Association, none of who need be Members or Owners.
- B.2.2. Declarant Assessments. During the Declarant Control Period, Lots owned by Declarant are not subject to Assessment.
- B.2.3. Builder Assessments. During the Declarant Control Period only, Declarant has the right but not the duty to reduce or waive the Assessment obligation of a Builder, provided the agreement is in writing.
- B.2.4. Expenses of Declarant. Expenses related to the completion and marketing of the Property will be paid by Declarant or by Builders and are not expenses of the Association.
- B.2.5. Budget Control. During the Declarant Control Period, the right of Owners to veto Assessment increases or special Assessments is not effective and may not be exercised.
- B.2.6. Organizational Meeting. Within 90 Days after the end of the Declarant Control Period, or sooner at the Declarant's option, Declarant will call an organizational meeting of the Members of the Association for the purpose of electing, by vote of the Owners, directors to the Board. Written notice of the organizational meeting must be given to an Owner of

each Lot at least 10 days before the meeting. For the organizational meeting, Owners of 10 percent of the Lots constitute a quorum.

B.2.7. Common Areas. At or prior to termination of the Declarant Control Period, Declarant will convey title to the Common Areas to the Association by deed – with or without warranty. At the time of conveyance, the Common Areas will be free of encumbrance except for the property taxes accruing for the year of conveyance and any existing easements. Declarant’s conveyance of title is a ministerial task that does not require and is not subject to acceptance by the Association or the Owners.

B.3. DEVELOPMENT PERIOD RESERVATIONS. Declarant reserves the following easements and rights, exercisable at Declarant’s sole discretion, at any time during the Development Period:

B.3.1. Changes in Development Plan. Declarant may modify the initial development plan to respond to perceived or actual changes and opportunities in the marketplace. Subject to approval by the County, Declarant may (1) change the sizes, dimensions, and configurations of Lots and street; (2) change the minimum dwelling size; (3) change the building setback requirements; and (4) eliminate or modify any other feature of the Property.

B.3.2. Builder Limitations. Declarant may require its approval (which may not be unreasonably withheld) of all documents and materials used by a Builder in connection with the development and sale of Lots, including without limitation promotional materials; deed restrictions; forms for deeds, Lot sales and Lot closings. Without Declarant’s prior written approval, a Builder may not use a sales office or model in the Property to market houses, Lots, or other product located outside the Property.

B.3.3. ACC. During the Development Period, Declarant has the absolute right to appoint the Architectural Control Committee, consisting of any number of persons who serve at the pleasure of Declarant, and who may be removed and replaced by Declarant. Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the Development Period – after termination of Declarant Control Period, or earlier if Declarant permits – the Board may appoint or serve as a “modifications committee” to respond exclusively to modifications of completed homes. The modifications committee may not involve itself with the approval of new homes on vacant Lots.

B.3.4. Amendment. During the Development Period, Declarant may amend this Declaration and the other Governing Documents, without consent of other Owners or any mortgagee, for the following limited purposes:

- a. To add real property to the Property.
- b. To withdraw real property from the Property.
- c. To create Lots, easements, and Common Areas within the Property.
- d. To subdivide, combine or reconfigure Lots.
- e. To convert Lots into Common Areas.
- f. To modify the construction specifications of this Declaration
- g. To merge the Association with another property owners association.
- h. To comply with requirements of an underwriting lender.
- i. To resolve conflicts, clarify ambiguities, and to correct misstatements, errors or omissions in the Governing Documents.

- j. To enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage on the Lots.
 - k. To enable an institutional or governmental lender to make or purchase mortgage loans on the Lots.
 - l. To change the name or entity of Declarant.
 - m. To change the name of the addition in which the Property is located.
 - n. For any other purpose, provided the amendment has no material adverse effect on any right of any Owner.
- B.3.5. Completion. During the Development Period, Declarant has (1) the right to complete or make improvements indicated on the plat; (2) the right to sell or lease any Lot owned by Declarant; and (3) an easement and right to erect, construct, and maintain on and in the Common Area and Lots owned or leased by Declarant whatever Declarant determines to be necessary advisable in connection with the construction, completion, management, maintenance, leasing and marketing of the Property.
- B.3.6. Easement to Inspect & Right to Correct. During the Development Period, Declarant reserves for itself 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. Declarant 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 a screening wall located on any Lot may be warranted by a change of circumstance, imprecise sitting of the original wall, or desire to comply more fully with public codes and ordinances. This Section may not be construed to create a duty for Declarant or the Association.
- B.3.7. Promotion. During the Development Period, Declarant Reserves for itself an easement and right to place and relocate signs, banners, flags, display lighting, and seasonal landscaping on the Property, and to maintain models and sales offices for purposes of promoting, identifying, and marketing the Property and/or Declarant's houses, Lots, developments or other products located outside the Property. During the Development Period, Declarant also reserves (1) the right to permit Builders to place signs and promotional material on the Property and (2) the right to exempt Builders from the sign restriction in this Declaration.
- B.3.8. Access. During the Development Period, Declarant has an easement and right of ingress and egress in and through the Property for purposes of constructing, maintaining, managing and marketing the Property and the Additional Land, and for discharging Declarant's obligations under this Declaration. Declarant also has the right to provide a reasonable means of access for the home-buying public through any existing or future gate that restricts vehicular access to the Property or to the Additional Land in connection with the active marketing of Lots and homes by Declarant or Builders, including the right to require that the gate be kept open during certain hours and/or on certain days. This provision may not be construed as an obligation or intent to gate the Property.
- B.3.9. Utility Easements. During the Development Period, Declarant may grant permits, licenses and easements over, in, on, under and through the Property for utilities, roads and other purposes necessary for the proper development and operation of the Property. Declarant reserves the right to make changes in and additions to the easements on any Lot, as shown on the plat, to more efficiently or economically install utilities or other improvements.

Utilities may include, but are not limited to, water, sewer, fiber optic, trash removal, electric, gas, telephone, television and security.

B.3.10. Transfer Fees. During the Development Period, Declarant may not be required to pay transfer-related fees and/or resale certificate fees.

B.3.11. Agent for Declarant. From time to time, Declarant may invite, request or employ one of its affiliates and/or a property/association management company, as its Agent, to share in the exercise of any, some, or all of its easements and rights, without any formality other than the consent of Declarant. Notwithstanding such sharing, Agent will not become a successor Declarant, or assume the duties and liabilities of Declarant under this Declaration unless Agent and Declarant join in an instrument that assigns and transfers Declarant rights and duties under this Declaration, signed and acknowledged by both Declarant and Agent, and recorded in the County's real property records.

B.4. WORKING CAPITAL FUND. Declarant may (but is not required to) establish a working capital fund for the Association. Each and every Lot shall have a per Lot recurring contribution to this fund set at Fifty and No/100 Dollars (\$50.00), a recurring fee to be paid upon each and every Closing on the Sale or transfer of any such Lot to an Owner other than a Builder or Declarant. Each new Purchaser shall be responsible for contribution to the fund. Contributions to the fund are not advance payments of regular Assessments and are not refundable. Declarant will transfer the balance of the working capital fund to the Association on or before termination of the Declarant Control Period, and the working capital fund shall be used for building capital or making improvements for the benefit of property of the Association and/or the Members.²

B.5. SUCCESSOR DECLARANT. Declarant may designate one or more Successor Declarant's for specified designated purposes and/or for specified portions of the Property, or for all purposes and all of the Property. To be effective, the designation must be in writing, signed and acknowledged by Declarant and Successor Declarant, and recorded in the real property records of Parker County, Texas. Declarant (or Successor Declarant) may subject the designation of Successor Declarant to limitations and reservations. Unless the designation of Successor Declarant provides otherwise, a Successor Declarant has the rights of Declarant under this section and may designate further Successor Declarant's.

(End of Exhibit B")

² This fund will not be used for improvements which are the responsibility of the Declarant, Developer or Builders.

EXHIBIT C
Acknowledgment by Acquisition

By its acquisition and ownership of a Lot in the Property, each Owner acknowledges that:

(a) due to the topography of its Lot and the Property, water will, at times, flow through and over portions of its Lot from adjacent and surrounding Lots in order to achieve positive drainage away from all applicable Lots. No adverse action may be taken by said Owner(s) to the detriment of this positive drainage on its or adjacent Lots.

(b) the property adjacent to **LakeRidge Ranches** is not owned or controlled by Declarant and it has hereby been advised to consult with the applicable departments of the County for any changes to and/or specific zoning information regarding its Lot, the Property and the zoning or proposed (re-)zoning of any adjacent property. It is also understood that there are no oral, written or implied representations or warranties regarding zoning or development of the Property or adjoining properties.

(c) its Lot may have “back-to-front” or “front-to-back” drainage. There may be a swale or swales over various portions of its Lot due to this drainage situation. The depth and width of any swales will vary depending on the elevations of its and adjacent Lots. The front and the rear portions of its Lot will not be level and no adjustments to the depth or severity of any swales should be made due to cosmetic or aesthetic concerns. Any alterations made after closing to any swales by an Owner may impact the drainage as well as any foundation warranty that it may own.

(d) its Lot falls under the jurisdiction of the Homeowners’ Association, which requires mandatory affiliation thereto, including the payment of an annual fee (which may be payable on a quarterly or other basis) per Section 7.3 of the Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions for **LakeRidge Ranches**. It will also incur a working capital contribution fee and a transfer fee per Section 6.10 of the Declaration, which it understands should be further reviewed for more detailed information regarding Association dues, Assessments and restrictions.

(e) it understands and agrees that neither Declarant nor Builder has any responsibility as to the present condition or future maintenance of any trees on its Lot. Furthermore, it is understood that neither Declarant nor Builder makes any assurances, implied or stated, in regard to the survival of any trees during the construction process of building and completing a Residence on its Lot. It is also acknowledged that neither Declarant nor Builder has any liability consideration on trees either during construction or after a Residence is purchased and occupied on the Lot. It is further understood that each Owner assumes all responsibility of the maintenance and the condition of any trees on his Lot.

(f) any modifications or additions to its Residence or any Structure on its Lot requires prior submittal to and approval of plans and specifications by the Association’s ACC pursuant to the Declaration. It is also understood that failure to so comply may result in the imposition of fines against the Owner and/or the removal of such modifications or additions at Owner’s expense.

(g) there is no prescribed time for the construction or marketing by Builder or Declarant of a Residence on any Lot or the Lot itself. It is also understood that Builder and Declarant make no assurances regarding any established period of time during which Lots near the model homes or trailers of any Builder will remain vacant since the utility of such homes or trailers is of an indeterminate length of time.

(h) it should direct any issues, concerns or questions regarding the Common Area or the Association to the Managing Agent, whose name can be obtained by contacting the Builder or Declarant.

(End of Exhibit D)

Executed this 4th day of March, 2023.

Declarant: JRM Land & Cattle Co., LLC

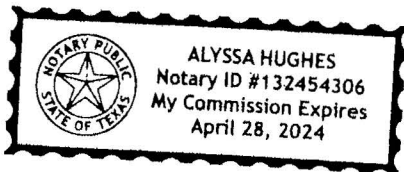
[Signature]
By: Jim Martin, Manager

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF PARKER §

This Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for LakeRidge Ranches, was Acknowledged before me this 4th day of March, 2024, by JRM Land & Cattle Co., LLC, by Jim Martin, Manager.

By: Alyssa Hughes
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TEXAS
Alyssa Hughes
(Print Name)

My Commission Expires:
04-28-24



FILED AND RECORDED

OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS

Lila Deakle

202408946
04/09/2024 02:55 PM
Fee: 217.00
Lila Deakle, County Clerk
Parker County, TX
DECLARE