Deed Book 50301 Pg 679
Filed and Recorded Aug-16-2011 08:37am
2011-0206013
Cathelene Robinson
Clerk of Superior Court
Fulton County, Georgia

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# DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR VALLEY BROOK SUBDIVISION

### STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF FULTON

THIS DECLARATION (hereinafter referred to as the "Declaration"), made on the date hereinafter set forth by Traton Homes, LLC (hereinafter referred to as "Declarant").

#### WITNESSETH:

**WHEREAS**, Declarant is the owner of certain real property located in Land Lot 65, 17<sup>th</sup> District, City of Atlanta, Georgia, which is more particularly described on Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference; and

WHEREAS, Declarant intends to develop on lands, including the real property described above, a development to be known as Valley Brook Subdivision (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Development"); and

WHEREAS, Declarant has caused the Association (as hereinafter defined) to be formed as a non-profit civic organization to perform certain functions for the common good and general welfare of the Owners (as hereinafter defined).

NOW, THEREFORE, Declarant hereby declares that all of the properties described on Exhibit "A" referenced above shall be held, sold and conveyed subject to the following easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, which are for the purpose of protecting the value and desirability of, and which shall run with, the real property and be binding on all parties

having any right, title or interest in the described properties or any part thereof, their heirs, successors and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of each owner thereof.

# ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

- Section 1. Additional Property. "Additional Property" means the additional property which may be added to the Property and made subject to this Declaration pursuant to Article X hereof.
- Section 2. Association. "Association" means Valley Brook HOA, Inc., (a non-profit corporation organized under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code), its successors and assigns.
  - Section 3. Board. "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Association.
  - Section 4. By-Laws. "By-Laws" means the By-Laws of the Association.
- Section 5. Common Property. "Common Property" shall mean all real property (including the improvements thereto) owned by the Association for the common use and enjoyment of the owners as well all water lines, any easements for entrance signage and any easements referenced on the plat. The Common Property shall include, but not be limited to, all property outside of the Lots and any open space areas, as shown on the recorded plats for Valley Brook Subdivision, as well as any other property deeded to the Association by the Declarant.
- Section 6. Declarant. "Declarant" shall mean and refer to Traton Homes, LLC, its successors and assigns, if such successors or assigns should acquire more than one undeveloped Lot from the Declarant for the purpose of development, and if Traton Homes, LLC transfers to such successors or assigns its rights as Declarant by written instrument. Any successor or assign who has become Declarant as provided for herein may also transfer Declarant's rights as set forth herein.
- Section 7. Lot. "Lot" shall mean and refer to any plot of land shown upon any recorded subdivision map of the Properties, with the exception of the Common Property, and any improvements constructed thereon.
  - Section 8. Member. "Member" means any member of the Association.
- Section 9. Owner. "Owner" shall mean and refer to the record owner, whether one or more persons or entities, of a fee simple title to any Lot which is a part of the Properties, including contract sellers, but excluding those having such interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation.

- Section 10. Property or Properties or Community. Property or Properties or "Community" shall mean and refer to that certain real property hereinabove described, and such additions thereto as may hereafter be brought within the jurisdiction of the Association.
- <u>Section 11</u>. <u>Restrictions</u>. "Restrictions" means all covenants, restrictions, easements, charges, liens and other obligations created or imposed by this Declaration.

#### Section 12. Structure. "Structure" means:

- (a) any thing or object the placement of which upon any Lot may affect the appearance of such Lot, including by way of illustration and not limitation, any building or part thereof, garage, porch, shed, greenhouse or bathhouse, coop or cage, covered or uncovered patio, swimming pool, fence, curbing, paving, wall, tree, shrub, sign, signboard, temporary or permanent living quarters (including any house trailer) or any other temporary or permanent improvement to such Lot;
- (b) any excavation, grading, fill ditch, diversion dam or other thing, or device which affects or alters the natural flow of surface waters from, upon or across any Lot, or which affects or alters the flow of any waters in any natural or artificial creek, stream, wash or drainage channel from, upon or across any Lot; and
- (c) any change in grade at any point on a Lot of more than six (6) inches, whether or not subsection (b) of this Section 12 applies to such change.

# ARTICLE II PROPERTY RIGHTS

- <u>Section 1</u>. <u>Owners' Easements of Enjoyment</u>. Every Owner shall have a right and easement of enjoyment in and to the Common Property which shall be appurtenant to and shall pass with the title to every Lot, subject to the following provisions:
  - (a) the right of the Association to charge reasonable admission and other fees for the use of any recreational facility situated upon the Common Property;
  - (b) the right of Association to suspend the voting rights and right to use of the recreational facilities (if any are ever constructed) by an owner for any period during which any assessment against his Lot remains unpaid; and for a period not to exceed 60 days for any infraction of its published rules and regulations;
  - (c) the right of the Association to dedicate or transfer all or any part of the Common Property to any public agency, authority, or utility for such purposes and subject to such conditions as may be agreed to by the members. No such dedication or transfer shall be effective unless an instrument agreeing to such

dedication or transfer signed by two-thirds (2/3) of each class of members has been recorded.

- (d) the right of the Declarant to dedicate the Common Property, subject to the governmental or institutional approvals required herein, to the Association, without the consent of the Association.
- (e) the right to adopt rules and regulations to insure that Valley Brook Subdivision maintains its property values and is a peaceful place to live.

Section 2. Delegation of Use. Every Owner may delegate, in accordance with the By-Laws, his right of enjoyment to the Common Property and facilities to the members of his family, his tenants, or contract purchasers who reside on the property.

# ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS

Section 1. Every Owner of a Lot which is subject to assessment shall be a member of the Association. Membership shall be appurtenant to and may not be separated from ownership of any Lot which is subject to assessment.

Section 2. <u>Voting Rights</u>. The Association shall have two classes of voting membership:

#### Class A:

Initially, the Class A members shall be all Owners, with the exception of the Declarant, and shall be entitled to one vote for each Lot owned. When more than one person holds an interest in any Lot, all such persons shall be members. The vote for such Lot shall be exercised as they among themselves determine, but in no event shall more than one vote be cast with respect to any Lot. If multiple owners of a lot cannot unanimously decide how to cast their vote then no vote may be cast regarding the ownership by that particular Lot.

#### Class B:

The Class B member shall be the Declarant and shall be entitled to three (3) votes for each Lot owned. The Class B membership shall cease and be converted to Class A membership on the happening of any of the following events:

(a) The date on which one hundred percent (100%) of the Lots located on the Property and any Additional Property which has been added to this Declaration by Declarant have been sold to individuals who reside in dwellings located on said Lots. In the event the Class B membership has ceased pursuant to this provision, and the Declarant adds Additional Property which causes the number of Lots sold to individuals who reside in dwellings located on said Lots to be less than one hundred percent (100%) of the Lots located on the Property, and

any Additional Property which has been added to the Declaration, then the Class B membership shall be revived, and the Class B member shall again have three (3) votes for each Lot owned.

- (b) Seven (7) years from the date of this Declaration; or
- (c) When, in its discretion, the Declarant so determines.

# ARTICLE IV COVENANT FOR MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENTS

Section 1. Creation of the Lien and Personal Obligation of Assessments. The Declarant, for each Lot owned within the Properties, hereby covenants, and each Owner of any Lot by acceptance of a deed therefore, whether or not it shall be so expressed in such deed, is deemed to covenant and agree to pay to the Association: (1) annual assessments or charges, (2) an assessment equal to fifty percent (50%) of the current annual assessment amount to be collected at the initial closing of any Lot to an Owner other than Declarant or a builder and an assessment equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the current annual assessment amount to be collected at any subsequent resale of a Lot; and (3) special assessments for capital improvements, such assessments to be established and collected as hereinafter provided. These assessments, together with interest, costs, and reasonable attorney's fees, shall be a charge on the land and shall be a continuing lien upon the property against which each such assessment is made. Each such assessment, together with interest, costs, and reasonable attorney's fees, shall also be the personal obligation of the person who was the Owner of such property at the time when the assessment fell due. The personal obligation for delinquent assessments shall not pass to his successors in title unless expressly assumed by them.

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Purpose of Assessments</u>. The assessments levied by the Association shall be used exclusively to promote the recreation, health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Properties and for the improvement and maintenance of the Common Property.

<u>Section 3</u>. <u>Maximum Annual Assessment</u>. The maximum annual assessment for all Lots shall be set by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Special Assessments for Capital Improvements. In addition to the annual assessments authorized above, the Association may levy, in any assessment year, a special assessment applicable to that year only for the purpose of defraying, in whole or in part, the cost of any construction, reconstruction, repair or replacement of a capital improvement upon the Common Property, including fixtures and personalty related thereto, provided that any such assessment shall have the assent of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes of each class of members who are voting in person or by proxy at a meeting duly called for this purpose.

Section 5. Notice and Quorum for any Action Authorized under Sections 3 and 4. Written notice of any meeting called for the purpose of taking any action authorized under

Section 3 or 4 shall be sent to all members not less than thirty (30) days nor more than sixty (60) days in advance of the meeting. At the first such meeting called, the presence of members or of proxies entitled to cast sixty percent (60%) of all the votes of each class of membership shall constitute a quorum. If the required quorum if not present, another meeting may be called subject to the same notice requirement, and the required quorum at the subsequent meeting shall be one-half (½) of the required quorum at the preceding meeting. No such subsequent meeting shall be held more than sixty (60) days following the preceding meeting.

Section 6. <u>Uniform Rate of Assessment</u>. Both annual and special assessments must be fixed at a uniform rate for all Lots and may be collected on a monthly basis or annually as determined by the Board.

Section 7. Date of Commencement of Annual Assessments: Due Dates. The annual assessments provided for herein shall commence as to all Lots on the date of conveyance of a Lot to a permanent resident. The first annual assessment shall be adjusted according to the number of months remaining in the calendar year. The Board of Directors shall fix the amount of the annual assessment against each Lot and the dates upon which the annual assessment is Anything contained herein to the contrary notwithstanding, Declarant and any collected. residential builder holding a Lot solely for resale with the intent of building a residence thereon, on behalf of themselves and their successors and assigns, shall not be responsible for assessments on Lots not containing an occupied residence. Any Owner who owns multiple Lots shall be obligated to pay assessments as provided herein on each Lot owned. Written notice of the annual assessment shall be sent to every Owner subject thereto. The due dates shall be established by the Board of Directors. The Association shall, upon demand, and for a reasonable charge, furnish a certificate signed by an officer of the association setting forth whether the assessments on a specified Lot have been paid. A properly executed certificate of the Association as to the status of assessments on a Lot is binding upon the Association as of the date of its issuance.

Section 8. Effect of Nonpayment of Assessments: Remedies of the Association. Any assessment not paid within thirty (30) days after the due date shall bear interest from the due date at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum. The Association may bring an action at law against the Owner personally obligated to pay the same, or foreclose the lien against the property. No Owner may waive or otherwise escape liability for the assessments provided for herein by non-use of the Common Property or abandonment of his Lot.

Section 9. Subordination of the Lien to Mortgages. The lien of the assessments provided for herein shall be subordinate to the lien of any first mortgage. Sale or transfer of any Lot shall not affect the assessment lien. However, the sale or transfer of any Lot pursuant to mortgage foreclosure or any proceeding in lien thereof, shall extinguish the lien of such assessments as to payments which became due prior to such sale or transfer. No sale or transfer shall relieve such Lot from liability for any assessments thereafter becoming due or from the lien thereof.

Section 10. Funding of Association Deficit by Declarant. Any time prior to Declarant relinquishing control of the Association pursuant to this Declaration, Declarant shall have the right, but not the obligation, to lend sums to the Association necessary for the operation and maintenance of the subdivision. Said sums shall be evidenced by a promissory note from the Association to the Declarant and shall be due and payable when Declarant relinquishes control of the Association pursuant to this Declaration.

# ARTICLE V ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL

- Section 1. Architectural Control Committee Creation and Composition. An Architectural Control Committee (the "ACC") shall be established consisting of three (3) individuals to be appointed by the Board of Directors; provided, however, that for so long as Declarant owns a Lot, Declarant shall appoint the ACC unless Declarant surrenders the right to appoint the ACC by written document.
- Section 2. Purpose, Powers and Duties of the ACC. The purpose of the ACC is to review and approve any proposed installation, construction or alteration of any Structure on any Lot. All plans shall be submitted to the ACC for approval (a) as to whether the proposed installation, construction or alteration is in conformity and harmony of external design and general quality with the existing standards of the neighborhood and with the standards of the Development, and (b) as to the location of Structures with respect to topography, finished ground elevation and surrounding Structures. To the extent necessary to carry out such purpose, the ACC shall have all of the powers and duties to do each and every thing necessary, suitable, convenient or proper for, or in connection with, or incidental to, the accomplishment of such purpose, including, without being limited to, the power and duty to approve or disapprove plans and specifications for any installation, construction or alteration of any Structure on any Lot.
- Section 3. Officers, Subcommittees and Compensation. The members of the ACC shall appoint a Chairman from among their number and may appoint from among their number such other officers and subcommittees of members of the ACC as they shall from time to time determine necessary. The members of the ACC shall be reimbursed by the association for traveling expenses and other out-of-pocket costs incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the ACC.

### Section 4. Operations of the ACC.

(a) Meetings. The ACC shall hold regular meetings at least once every three (3) months or more often as may be established by the ACC. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman and shall be called by the Chairman upon the written request of a majority of the members of the ACC then in office. Regular and special meetings of the ACC shall be held at such time and at such place as the ACC shall specify. Notice of each regular or special meeting of the ACC shall be mailed to each member thereof at his usual place of business at least

three (3) days before the day the meeting is to be held. Notice of regular and special meetings need not specify the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called. Notice of a meeting need not be given to any member of the ACC who signs a waiver of notice either before or after the meeting. Attendance of a member of the ACC at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of any and all objections to the place of the meeting, the time of the meeting, or the manner in which it has been called or convened, except when the member states, at the beginning of the meeting, any such objection or objections to the transaction of business. At each meeting of the ACC the presence of a majority of the members of the ACC present at any regular or special meeting thereof at which a quorum is present shall constitute the act of the ACC. In the absence of a quorum, any member of the ACC present at the time and place of the meeting may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum shall be present. At any adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called. The ACC shall maintain both a record of votes and minutes for each of its meetings. The ACC shall make such records and minutes available at reasonable places and times for inspection by Members of the Association and by the Secretary. Any action required to be taken at a meeting of the ACC, may be taken without a meeting if written consent, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all the members of the ACC and be filed within the minutes of the proceedings of the ACC. Such consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote, and may be stated as such in any document filed by the ACC.

#### (b) Activities.

- (i) The ACC shall adopt and promulgate the Design Standards described in Section 5 hereof and shall, as required, make findings, determinations, rulings, and orders with respect to the conformity with said Design Standards of plans and specifications to be submitted for approval by the ACC pursuant to the provisions of this Declaration. The ACC shall, as required, issue permits, authorizations, or approvals, which may include specified requirements or conditions, pursuant to the provisions of this Declaration.
- (ii) Any two (2) or more members of the ACC may be authorized by the ACC to exercise the full authority of the ACC with respect to all matters over which the ACC has authority as may be specified by resolution of the ACC, except with respect to the adoption or promulgation of the Design Standards. The unanimous action of the two (2) or more members with respect to the matters specified shall be final and binding upon the ACC and upon any applicant for an approval, permit or authorization, subject, however, to review and modification by the ACC on its own motion or appeal by the applicant to the ACC as provided in

this paragraph (ii). Written notice of the decision of such two (2) or more members shall be given in accordance with Section 9 below to any applicant for an approval, permit or authorization. The applicant may, within ten (10) days after receipt of notice of any decision which he deems to be unsatisfactory, file a written request to have the matter in question reviewed by the ACC. Upon the filing of any such request, the matter with respect to which such request was filed shall be submitted to, and reviewed promptly by the ACC, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after the filing of such request. The decision of a majority of the members of the ACC with respect to such matter shall be final and binding.

### Section 5. Design Standards.

- (a) The ACC may, from time to time, but shall not be obligated to adopt, promulgate, amend, revoke and enforce guidelines (the "Design Standards") for the purposes of:
  - (i) governing the form and content of plans and specifications to be submitted to the ACC for approval pursuant to the provisions of this Declaration;
  - (ii) governing the procedure for such submission of plans and specifications;
  - (iii) establishing guidelines with respect to the approval and disapproval of design features, architectural styles, exterior colors and materials, details of construction, location and size of Structures and all other matters that require approval by the ACC pursuant to this Declaration; and
  - (iv) assuring the conformity and harmony of external design and general quality of the Development.
- (b) The ACC may make a published copy of its current Design Standards readily available to Members and prospective Members of the Association and to all applicants seeking the ACC's approval.
- Section 6. Submission of Plans and Specifications. No Structure shall be commenced, erected, placed, moved onto or permitted to remain on any Lot nor shall any existing Structure upon any Lot be altered in any way which materially changes the exterior appearance of the Structure or Lot, unless plans and specifications therefore shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the ACC. Such plans and specifications shall be in such form and shall contain such information as may be reasonably required by the ACC in the Design Standards, including where applicable, and without being limited to:

- (a) a site plan showing the location of all proposed and existing Structures on the Lot including building setbacks, open space, driveways, walkways and parking spaces including the number thereof and all siltation and erosion control measures:
  - (b) a foundation plan;
  - (c) a floor plan;
- (d) exterior elevations of all proposed Structures and alterations to existing Structures, as such Structures shall appear after all back-filling and landscaping are completed;
- (e) specifications of materials, color scheme, lighting scheme and other details affecting the exterior appearance of all proposed Structures and alterations to existing Structures; and
  - (f) plans for landscaping and grading.
- Section 7. Approval of Plans and Specifications. Upon approval by the ACC of any plans and specifications submitted pursuant to this Declaration, one (1) copy of such plans and specifications, as approved, shall be deposited for permanent record with the ACC and a copy of such plans and specifications bearing such approval, in writing shall be returned to the applicant submitting the same. Approval for use in connection with any Lot or Structure of any plans and specifications shall not be deemed a waiver of the ACC's right, in its discretion, to disapprove similar plans and specifications or any of the features or elements included therein if such plans, specifications, features or elements are subsequently submitted for use in connection with any other Lot or Structure. Approval of any such plans and specifications relating to any Lot or Structure, however, shall be final as to that Lot or Structure and such approval may not be revoked or rescinded thereafter, provided that there has been adherence to, and compliance with, such plans and specifications, as approved, and any conditions attached to any such approval.
- <u>Section 8</u>. <u>Disapproval of Plans and Specifications</u>. The ACC shall have the right to disapprove any plans and specifications submitted pursuant to this Declaration for any of the following reasons:
  - (a) the failure to include information in such plans and specifications as may have been reasonably requested;
  - (b) the failure of such plans or specifications to comply with this Declaration or the Design Standards;

(c) any other matter which, in the judgment of the ACC, would be likely to cause the proposed installation, construction or alteration of a Structure (i) to fail to be in conformity and harmony of external design and general quality with the standards of the Development as set forth in the Design Standards, or (ii) as to location to be incompatible with topography, finished ground elevation and surrounding Structures. In any case in which the ACC shall approve the same only as modified or upon specified conditions, such disapproval or qualified approval shall be accompanied by a statement of the grounds upon which such action was based. In any such case the ACC shall, if requested, make reasonable efforts to assist and advise the applicant in order that an acceptable proposal may be prepared and submitted for approval.

Section 9. Obligation to Act. The ACC shall take action on any plans and specifications submitted as herein provided within thirty (30) days after receipt thereof. Approval by the ACC, if granted, together with any conditions imposed by the ACC shall be placed in writing on the plans and specifications and shall be returned to the applicant. Failure by ACC to take action within thirty (30) days of receipt of plans and specifications submitted for approval shall be deemed approval of such plans and specifications.

Section 10. Inspection Rights. Any employee or agent of the Association or the ACC may, after reasonable notice, at any reasonable time or times, enter upon any Lot and Structure thereon for the purpose of ascertaining whether the installation, construction, alteration or maintenance of any Structure or the use of any Lot or Structure is in compliance with the provisions of this Declaration; and neither the Association, nor the ACC, nor any such agent shall be deemed to have committed a trespass or other wrongful act solely by reason of such entry or inspection, provided such inspection is carried out in accordance with the terms of this Section.

Section 11. Violations. If any Structure shall be erected, placed, maintained or altered upon any Lot, otherwise than in accordance with the plans and specifications approved by the ACC pursuant to the provisions of this Article, such erection, placement, maintenance or alteration shall be deemed to have been undertaken in violation of this Article and without the approval required herein. If in the opinion of the ACC such violation shall have occurred, the ACC shall notify the Association. If the Board shall agree with the determination of the ACC with respect to the violation, then the Board shall provide written notice to the Owner by certified mail, setting forth in reasonable detail the nature of the violation and the specific action or actions required to remedy the violation. If the owner shall not have taken reasonable steps toward the required remedial action within thirty (30) days after the mailing of the aforesaid notice of violation, then the Association shall have the Right of Abatement as provided herein.

### Section 12. Certification of Compliance.

- (a) Upon completion of the installation, construction or alteration of any Structure in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the ACC, the ACC shall, upon written request of the Owner thereof or upon the ACC's own initiative, issue a Certificate of Compliance, identifying such Structure and Lot upon which such Structure is place, and stating that the plans and specifications have been approved and that such Structure complies with such plans and specifications. A copy of said Certificate shall be filed for permanent record with the plans and specifications on file with the ACC.
- (b) Any Certificate of Compliance issued in accordance with the provisions of this Section shall be prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated; and as to any purchaser or encumbrancer in good faith and for value, or as to any title insurer, such certificate shall be conclusive evidence that all Structures on the Lot comply with all the requirements of this Article, provided, however, that the Certificate shall in no way be construed to certify the acceptability, sufficiency or approval by the ACC of the actual construction of Structures or of the workmanship, or to represent or warrant to anyone the quality, function or operation of the Structures or of any construction, workmanship, engineering, materials or equipment. The issuance of the Certificate shall in no way be construed to certify to any party that the Structures have been built in accordance with any applicable rule or regulation other than those of the ACC.
- Section 13. Fees. The ACC may impose and collect a reasonable and appropriate fee to cover the cost of inspection performed pursuant to Section 10. The fee shall be established from time to time by the ACC and published in the Design Standards.
- Section 14. Non-Discrimination by ACC. The ACC shall not discriminate against any applicant requesting its approval of plans and specifications because of such applicant's race, color, sex, religion, age or natural origin. Further, the ACC in the exercise of its powers granted pursuant to this Declaration shall not take any action the intent or effect of which is to discriminate against persons of a particular race, color, sex, religion, age or national origin.
- <u>Section 15.</u> <u>Liability for Defects</u>. The Declarant, the Association, the Board of Directors, officers of the Association, or the ACC shall not be liable for any defects in any plans and specifications which it approves.

### ARTICLE VI GENERAL COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS

The following covenants and restrictions shall apply to all Lots and to all Structures erected or placed thereon:

- Section 1. Residential Use. All Lots shall be restricted exclusively to single-family residential use. The use of a portion of a dwelling as an office by an Owner shall not be considered to be a violation of this covenant if such use does not create regular customer, client or employee traffic. The use of a dwelling or a portion thereof for business meetings, entertainment, or the enjoyment or business of the Owner's employees, trustees, agents, clients, or customers shall not be considered to be a violation of this covenant if such use does not create regular customer, client or employee traffic. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit or prevent Declarant or any builder of residences on the Property from using any Lot owned by Declarant or such builder for the purpose of carrying on business related to the development and sale of Lots and/or new homes on Lots.
- Section 2. <u>Common Property</u>. The Common Property shall be used by the Owners and Declarant, and their agents, servants, tenants, family members, invitees and licensees for such other purposes as may be authorized by the Association.
- Section 3. <u>Debris</u>. No rubbish or debris of any kind shall be dumped, placed or permitted to accumulate upon any portion of an Owner's Lot so as to render the same unsanitary, unsightly or offensive. No nuisance shall be permitted to exist upon any portion of the Property. All garbage cans must be kept concealed (ie not visible from any street or another Lot) except 24 hours before collection and 12 hours after collection.
- Section 4. <u>Erosion Control</u>. No activity which may create erosion or siltation problems shall be undertaken on any Lot except for the initial construction of residences and development of the Property unless the same is approved by the Architectural Control Committee.

#### Section 5. Signs.

- (a) No signs whatsoever shall be installed, altered or maintained on any Lot, or on any portion of a Structure visible from the exterior thereof, except:
  - (i) not more than one "For Sale" or "For Rent" sign, which is subject to the approval of the Architectural Control Committee, provided, however, that in no event shall any such sign be larger than three (3) square feet in area; and
  - (ii) entry signs used to identify subdivision, marketing signs used to advertise subdivision by Declarant and in conjunction therewith brochure holders; and
    - (iii) not more than one small security sign.
- (b) Following the consummation of the sale of any Lot, the sign located thereon shall be removed immediately.

(c) No signs whatsoever shall be installed, altered or maintained on any Lot, or on any portion of a Structure visible from the exterior thereof, for the purpose of expressing any opinion or allegations Owner may have with respect to Declarant, the Property, any builder, any neighbors, or anyone affiliated with Valley Brook Subdivision. The intent of this provision is to maintain property values, to maintain the integrity of the community, and to promote a peaceful residential setting in which all Owners can live without being subjected to controversy in the residential setting.

Section 6. Fences. No chain link or cyclone fences may be placed on the property except that Declarant may, but is not required to do so, place such fences on the Common Area or on the perimeters of the Property should Declarant deem it necessary. ALL FENCES PLACED ON THE PROPERTY SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE. Each Owner understands and agrees that if said Owner constructs a preapproved fence along a shared Lot line, the Owner of the adjacent Lot, should said Owner so choose, may erect a fence that attaches to the existing fence line at no expense to said Owner. At no time shall any Lot have "double fencing" along any Lot line.

Section 7. "Vehicles". The term "vehicles", as used in this Section, shall refer to vehicles used as passenger vehicles and receiving a "car" or "passenger vehicle" classification by the Georgia Department of Motor Vehicles. All vehicles of an Owner or Occupant shall be parked inside of the Lot's garage. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a vehicle may be parked in a Lot's driveway only after the maximum number of vehicles that can be parked in a garage according to its design capacity has been parked in the garage, provided, however, a vehicle shall not be parked on a driveway for more than seventy-two (72) consecutive hours unless a variance is requested in advance in writing and granted by the Board. Temporarily moving the vehicle in question will not restart the seventy-two hour time clock. Owners and Occupants are prohibited from parking on yard areas and along the roadways of the Community. Owners and Occupants shall park on any exterior parking spaces, if any, located on the Common Property only in accordance with rules and regulations formulated by the Board. The doors of garages shall be kept closed at all times, except during times of entry and exit from the garage, or when someone is working in or around the garage.

Disabled and stored vehicles are prohibited from being parked on any portion of the Community, except in garages. For purposes hereof, a vehicle shall be considered "disabled" if it does not have a current license tag or is obviously inoperable. A vehicle of an Owner or Occupant shall be considered "stored" if it remains on the Community for fourteen (14) consecutive days or longer without prior written Board permission.

Boats, trailers, parcel trucks, buses, trucks with a load capacity of one (1) ton or more, vans (excluding mini-vans or utility vehicles used as passenger vehicles and receiving a "car" or "passenger vehicle" classification by the Georgia Department of Motor Vehicles) and recreational vehicles (including but not limited to RV's, motor homes, trailers, motorcycles,

minibikes, scooters, go-carts, buses, jet skis, wave runners and similar type vehicles) are also prohibited from being parked on the Community, except in garages or other areas, if any, that have been designated by the Board as parking area for particular types of vehicles. Notwithstanding the above, trucks, vans, commercial vehicles and vehicles with commercial writings on their exteriors shall be allowed temporarily on the Community during normal business hours for the purpose of serving a Lot or the Common Property, provided, however, no such vehicle shall remain on any portion of the Community overnight for any purpose unless prior written consent of the Board is first obtained. The preceding sentence shall not apply to Declarant or an Approved Builder for so long as either party owns any property in the Community for development and/or sale. Motorized vehicles, as well as non motorized scooters/skateboards/bicycles or similar recreational vehicles or toys, shall not be permitted on any portion of the Common Property except for public safety vehicles and vehicles authorized by the Board.

If any vehicle is parked on any portion of the Community in violation of this Section or in violation of the Association's rules and regulations, the Board or agent of the Association may place a notice on the vehicle specifying the nature of the violation and stating that after twenty-four (24) hours the vehicle may be towed. The notice shall include the name and telephone number of the Person or entity that will do the towing and the name and telephone number of a Person to contact regarding the alleged violation. If twenty-four (24) hours after such notice is placed on the vehicle the violation continues or thereafter occurs again within six (6) months of such notice, the Board or agent of the Association may have the vehicle towed in accordance with the notice, without further notice to the Owner or user of the vehicle.

If a vehicle is parked in a fire lane, is blocking another vehicle or access to a Unit, is obstructing the flow of traffic, is parked on any grassy area or the roadways, or otherwise creates a hazardous condition, no notice shall be required and the Board or agent of the Association may have the vehicle towed immediately. If a vehicle is towed in accordance with this Section, neither the Association nor any officer or agent of the Association shall be liable to any person for any claim of damage as a result of the towing activity. Towing shall be conducted at the sole cost and expense of the violating Owner or Occupant, and all costs shall be added to and become part of the assessment obligation of the Owner and shall become a lien against the Lot. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Board may elect to impose fines or use other available sanctions, other than exercise its authority to tow.

Section 8. <u>Recreational Equipment</u>. No recreational, playground equipment or basketball goals shall be placed or installed on any Lot without the prior written approval of the Architectural Control Committee.

Section 9. <u>Accessory Structures</u>. A detached accessory structure may (or may not) be placed on a Lot, subject to ACC consent and current standards, to be used as a mailbox, a dog house or a garage; a garage may also be a detached accessory structure. Such accessory structures shall adhere to the standards set by the ACC in its sole discretion. Tool sheds may or may not be allowed by the ACC in its sole discretion. Owners should refer to the

rules/regulations/standards on tool sheds set by the ACC in its sole discretion for tool shed specific information. With the exception of a garage that is attached to a dwelling, an accessory structure placed on a Lot shall be located only behind the dwelling as such dwelling fronts on the street abutting such Lot. Such accessory structures shall also be located with such side and rear setback lines as may be required hereby or by applicable zoning law. However, there shall be no outside lighting except as may be approved by the Architectural Control Committee. Any such accessory structure must be approved, in advance, in writing by the Architectural Control Committee.

- Section 10. <u>Improvement of Lots</u>. All construction of dwellings, accessory structures and all other improvements on the Property shall be undertaken and completed in accordance with the following conditions:
  - (a) All construction shall be carried out in compliance with the laws, code, rules, regulations and orders of all applicable governmental agencies and authorities.
  - (b) Concrete block or cinder block shall not be used as a building material for the exposed exterior surface of any dwelling or accessory structure constructed or placed on any Lot.
  - (c) Only one mailbox shall be located on any Lot, which mailbox shall be selected to be consistent with the quality and design of surrounding dwellings and mailboxes and shall be placed and maintained to complement the dwelling to which it is appurtenant to the extent such mailbox is permitted to be located and maintained by the United States Postal Service, its successors and assigns. All mailboxes must be approved by the ACC.
  - (d) No lumber, bricks, stones, cinder blocks, scaffolding, mechanical devices, or any other materials or devices used for building purposes shall be stored on any Lot except for purposes of construction of a dwelling or accessory structure on such Lot nor shall any such building materials or devices be stored on any Lot for longer than the length of time reasonably necessary for the construction in which such materials or devices are to be used.
  - (e) No exposed above-ground tanks for the storage of fuel or water or any other substance shall be located on any Lot other than apparatus relating to solar energy, the location and design of which must first be approved by the Architectural Control Committee.
    - (f) Adequate off-street parking shall be provided for each Lot.
  - (g) All garages must have doors, and each garage door must be coordinated in design and color with the dwelling to which it is appurtenant.

Garages shall not be used as living space. All owner vehicles shall be parked in the garage at all times unless more than two vehicles are registered to the Owner at any given time.

(h) Any construction on a Lot shall be at the risk of the Owner of such Lot and the Owner of such Lot shall be responsible for any damage to any curbing or street resulting from construction on such Lot; repairs of such damage must be made within thirty (30) days after completion of such construction.

Section 11. <u>Animals</u>. No animals, including birds, insects and reptiles, may be kept on any Lot unless kept thereon solely as household pets and not for commercial purposes. Owner shall be responsible for removing all feces deposited by its animal(s) on any portion of the Property. No animal shall be allowed to become a nuisance. Owners may have a reasonable number of pets, said number to be determined in the sole discretion of the Association, at any given time. Dogs must be on a leash at all times when on the Common Property. The Board shall have the sole discretion to request that an Owner permanently remove an animal/pet from Valley Brook Subdivision. In the event the Owner does not adhere to the Association's request, the Association may take any steps necessary to have the animal/pet removed. Any costs of removal shall be paid by the Owner in question and shall be subject to collection in the same manner as overdue assessments as provided herein.

Section 12. Accessory Structures Installed by Declarant. Entry signs, fences, walls and landscaping installed by Declarant on the Property shall be and are hereby dedicated to the use and benefit of all owners, and shall not be removed or altered without a two-third (2/3) vote of the Association Class A members. Owners understand and agree that signs or decorative walls on the Property may have a reference to Declarant or its related entities and this reference may not be removed or altered.

Section 13. <u>Miscellaneous Fixtures</u>. To provide a neat, attractive and harmonious appearance throughout the neighborhood, no awnings, shades or window boxes shall be attached to, or hung or used on the exterior of, any window or door of any house; and no railings, fences, or walls shall be installed or constructed upon any lot or parcel of land without the prior written consent of the Architectural Control Committee. Further, no foil or other reflective material shall be used on any windows or sunscreens, blinds, shades or for any other purpose, nor shall any window mounted heating, air-conditioning or fan units be permitted. Outside clotheslines or other outside facilities for drying or airing clothes are specifically prohibited and shall not be erected, placed or maintained upon any lot or parcel of land, nor shall any clothing, rugs or other items be hung on any railing, fence, hedge or wall. All curtains, and window treatments of any type shall be white as same face the street and any blinds placed on any window shall be white or a natural wood color.

Section 14. Antennae. No television antenna, radio receiver, satellite dish or other similar device shall be attached to or installed on any portion of the Property, unless said antenna, radio receiver, satellite dish or other device is one meter or less in diameter and is

installed at the rear of the residence, nor shall radio or television signals, nor any other form of electromagnetic radiation, be permitted to originate from any Lot which may unreasonably interfere with the reception of television or radio signals within the Subdivision; provided, however, that the Association shall not be prohibited from installing equipment necessary for master antenna, security, cable television, mobile radio or other similar systems within the Subdivision, and should cable television services be unavailable and adequate television reception not be otherwise available, then an Owner may make written application to the Architectural Control Committee for permission to install a television antenna. The location of the placement of a satellite dish that is one meter or less in diameter shall be subject to the approval, in writing, of the Architectural Control Committee except that said committee must allow a placement at a location on an Owner's Lot where reception can reasonably be obtained.

Section 15. From the time that the Common Property or any portion thereof, is opened and put into use for the enjoyment of the Owners, Declarant shall be and remain wholly free and clear of any and all liability to, or claims by, all Owners, and all persons or entities, of whatever kind or character, whether sounding in contract or tort, deriving from the occurrence of any injury or damage to any person or property on, or in respect of the use and operation of, the Common Property or any of its improvements, fixtures and facilities; inasmuch as the control, operation, management, use and enjoyment, of the Common Property shall be within, under and subject to the Association and not Declarant. In such respect, it shall be the affirmative duty and responsibility of each Owner and user of any facilities located on the Common Property to continuously inspect the same for any defects or perils or other unsafe conditions or circumstances, prior to and thereof; and all users of, and visitors to, the Common Property and its improvements and facilities, shall use, enjoy and visit, the same at their own risk and peril.

Section 16. <u>Leasing.</u> Residences located on Lots may be leased for residential purposes. All leases shall require, without limitation, that the tenant acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Declaration, Bylaws, use restrictions, and rules and regulations of the Association. The lease shall obligate the tenant to comply with the foregoing. No more than twenty percent of Lots shall be leased at any one time.

Section 17. <u>Nuisance</u>. It shall be the responsibility of each Owner and Occupant to prevent the development of any unclean, unhealthy, unsightly, or unkempt condition on such Owner's Lot. No property within Valley Brook Subdivision shall be used, in whole or in part, for the storage of any property or thing that will cause such Lot to appear to be in an unclean or untidy condition or that will be obnoxious to the eye; nor shall any substance, thing, or material be kept that will emit foul or obnoxious odors or that will cause any noise or other condition that will or might disturb the peace, quiet, safety, comfort, or serenity of the occupants of surrounding property. No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on within Valley Brook Subdivision, nor shall anything be done tending to cause embarrassment, discomfort, annoyance, or nuisance to any Person using any property within Valley Brook Subdivision. There shall not be maintained any plants or animals or device or thing of any sort whose activities or existence in any way is noxious, dangerous, unsightly, unpleasant, or of a nature as may diminish or destroy the enjoyment of Valley Brook Subdivision. Without limiting the

generality of the foregoing, no speaker, horn, whistle, siren, bell, amplifier or other sound device, except such devices as may be used exclusively for security purposes, shall be located, installed or maintained upon the exterior of any Lot unless required by law.

- Section 18. <u>Tree Removal</u>. No tree greater than six inches in diameter shall be removed without the consent of the Association.
- Section 19. <u>Exterior Lighting</u>. All exterior lighting shall be approved, prior to installation, by the Association.
  - Section 20. <u>Swimming Pools</u>. Above ground swimming pools are strictly prohibited.
- Section 21. <u>Construction and Sale Period</u>. Notwithstanding any provisions contained in this Declaration, the Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, rules and regulations, Design Guidelines, and any amendments, so long as there is development and construction related to the initial sale of residences constructed on Lots, it shall be expressly permissible for Declarant to maintain and carry on, upon such portion of the Community as Declarant may deem necessary, such facilities and activities as in the sole opinion of Declarant may be required, convenient or incidental to Declarant's development, construction, and sales activities related to the Property, including, but without limitation, the following:
  - (a) the right of access, ingress and egress for vehicular and pedestrian traffic, over, under, on, or in the Community;
  - (b) the right to tie into any portion of the Community with driveways, parking areas and walkways;
  - (c) the right to tie into and/or otherwise connect and use (without a tap-on or any other fee for so doing), replace, relocate, maintain and repair any device which provides utility or similar services including, without limitation, electrical, telephone, natural gas, water, sewer and drainage lines and facilities constructed or installed in, on, under and/or over the Community; and
  - (d) the right to carry on sales and promotional activities in the Community; and the right to construct and operate business offices, signs, construction trailers residences, model residences, and sales offices. Declarant may use residences, offices, or other buildings owned or leased by Declarant as model residences and sales offices and may also use recreational facilities available for use by the Community as a sales office without charge.

Rights exercised pursuant to such this paragraph shall be exercised with a minimum of interference to the quiet enjoyment of affected property, reasonable steps shall be taken to protect such property and damage shall be repaired by the person causing the damage at its sole expense. Declarant may assign any of the rights granted herein to any person, including, without

limitation, builders of residences in the Community. This Section shall not be amended without the Declarant's express written consent so long as the Declarant owns any property in the Community, or which is subject to annexation to the Community, primarily for development and/or sale.

Section 22. <u>Access to Valley Brook</u>. As required by Zoning Condition 14 referenced on the plat of survey for Valley Brook recorded in Plat Book 315, Pages 133-136, Records of Fulton County, Georgia, the Property shall be accessed by Valley Brook Road (50' R/W) only.

Section 23. Traffic Regulations. All vehicular traffic on the private streets and roads in Valley Brook shall be subject to the provisions of the laws of the State of Georgia and Fulton County concerning operation of motor vehicles on public streets. The Association is hereby authorized to promulgate, administer, and enforce reasonable rules and regulations governing vehicular and pedestrian traffic, including reasonable safety measures and speed limits and including modifications of those in force on public streets and posting signage, within Valley Brook. The Association shall be entitled to enforce same by establishing such enforcement procedures as it deems appropriate, including levying fines for the violation thereof. In the event of a conflict between such provisions of the laws of the State of Georgia and Fulton County and such rules and regulations promulgated by the Association, the rules and regulations of the Association shall govern drivers licensed to operate motor vehicles by the State of Georgia or by any other state in the United States may operate any type of motor vehicle within Valley Brook. All vehicles of any kind and nature which are operated on the streets of Valley Brook shall be operated in a careful, prudent, safe, and quiet manner, and with due consideration for the rights of all residents of Valley Brook.

### ARTICLE VII EASEMENTS, ZONING AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS

#### Section 1. Easements.

- (a) Declarant hereby expressly reserves to the Declarant, its successors and assigns forever, the right to create perpetual easements in, on, over and under any part of the Property owned by Declarant for any purpose which Declarant deems necessary, including, by way of example, and not limitation, the following:
  - (i) the erection, installation, construction and maintenance of wires, lines, conduits and poles and the necessary or proper attachments in connection with the transmission of electricity, telephone, cable television and other utilities and similar facilities;
  - (ii) the erection, installation, construction and maintenance of storm-water drains, land drains, public and private sewers, irrigation systems, pipelines for supplying gas, water and heat, and for any other public or quasi-public facility, service or function;

- (iii) slope control purposes, including the right to grade and plant slopes and to prevent the doing of any activity which might interfere with slopes or which might create erosion or sliding problems or which might change, obstruct or retard drainage flow;
- (iv) the planting or re-planting of hedges, shrubbery, bushes, trees, flowers and plants of any nature;
- (v) the erection, installation, construction and maintenance of fences, walls, monuments, signs, etc. along streets in, around and along and at entrances to the Development, and the right to landscape such areas, plant, re-plant and prune hedges, shrubbery, bushes, trees, flowers, grass and plants of any nature.
- (b) No Owner shall have any right to use any easement created by the Declarant in, on or over any portion of the Property unless such easement has been assigned by the Declarant to the Association.
- (c) The Declarant hereby reserves for itself, its successors and assigns, across the Property perpetual easements appurtenant to all or any portion of the Property for the following uses and purposes:
  - (i) An easement for ingress and egress by vehicular and pedestrian traffic over (1) such drives, roadways, walkways and paths as are shown on the plat or plats recorded in connection with the Property, and (2) such drives, roadways, walkways and paths as may be constructed in the future; and
  - (ii) An easement for the purpose of installing, operating, maintaining and replacing wires, pipes, conduits and other structures and facilities necessary to the furnishing of gas, water, sewerage, storm drainage, electricity, street lights, telephone, and other utilities and services, including the right to use in common with the Owners of the Property, the wires, pipes, conduits, and other structures and facilities furnishing such utilities and services to such Owners.
- (d) In addition to the above, the Declarant hereby grants a general easement in favor of utility, cable television and other such service companies across the Property, to maintain, repair, replace and service wires, pipes, conduits, street lights and other structures and facilities provided for the benefit of the Owners.
- (e) The easements created in this Article VII are in addition to any easements or rights created elsewhere in this Declaration or in other easements of

- record. The provisions of this Article VII may not be amended without the written consent of the Declarant, its successors and assigns.
- <u>Section 2</u>. <u>Easement Area</u>. The words "Easement Area" as used herein shall mean those areas on any Lot with respect to which easements are shown on a recorded deed or on any filed or recorded map or plat relating thereto.
- Section 3. Entry. The Declarant and its employees, agents, successors and assigns shall have the right at all reasonable times to enter upon all parts of each Easement Area for any of the purposes for which such Easement Area is reserved without being deemed to have committed a trespass or wrongful act solely by reason of such entry and the carrying out of such purposes, provided the same are done in accordance with the provisions of this Article. The Declarant and its employees, agents, successors and assigns shall be responsible for leaving each Lot in good condition and repair following any work or activity undertaken in an Easement Area pursuant to the provisions of Section 1.
- Section 4. Zoning and Private Restrictions. None of the covenants, restrictions or easements created or imposed by this Declaration shall be construed as permitting any action prohibited by applicable zoning laws, or by the laws, rules or regulations of any governmental body. In the event of any conflict between such laws, rules or regulations and the covenants, restrictions and easements created or imposed by this Declaration, the most restrictive provision shall govern and control. As outlined in the conditions of zoning for the Property, the Property shall not be accessed from any street other than Valley Brook Drive.

### ARTICLE VIII ENFORCEMENT

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>Right of Enforcement</u>. This Declaration and the Restrictions contained herein shall inure to the benefit of and shall be enforceable by (i) the Declarant so long as it is an Owner, (ii) the Association and (iii) each Owner, his legal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns.

#### Section 2. Right of Abatement.

(a) Except where different notice provisions are provided in this Declaration, in the event of a violation or breach of any Restriction contained in this Declaration, the Association shall give written notice by certified mail to the Owner setting forth in reasonable detail the nature of such violation or breach, and the specific action or actions needed to be taken to remedy such violation or breach. If the Owner shall fail to take reasonable steps to remedy such violation or breach within thirty (30) days after the mailing of such written notice (or ten (10) days in the event of a lawn/landscaping violation), then the Association shall have the Right of Abatement.

(b) The Right of Abatement, as used in this Section and in other sections of this Declaration, means the right of the Association, through its agents and employees, to enter at all reasonable times upon any Lot or Structure, as to which a violation, breach or other condition to be remedied exists, and to take the actions specified in the notice to the Owner to abate, extinguish, remove or repair such violation, breach or other condition which may exist thereon contrary to the provisions hereof, without being deemed to have committed a trespass or wrongful act solely by reason of such entry and such actions, provided such entry and such actions are carried out in accordance with the provisions of this Section, and with the cost thereof, including the costs of collection and reasonable attorney's fees, together with interest thereon at the lower of the highest rate permitted by law or 12% to be a binding personal obligation of such Owner enforceable in law, as well as a lien on such Owner's Lot enforceable pursuant to the provisions of Section 4 hereof. Such lien shall be superior to any and all charges, liens or encumbrances which may in any manner arise or be imposed upon the Lot after such entry whether arising from or imposed by judgment or decree or by any agreement, contract, mortgage, deed to secure debt, or other instrument, excepting only (i) such liens for taxes or other public charges as are by applicable law made superior, (ii) the liens created by Section 4.01 hereof and (iii) all deeds to secure debt given to secure a loan the proceeds of which are used (1) to purchase a lot or lots (together with any and all Structures which may from time to time be placed or located thereon) and (2) to finance the construction, repair or alteration of Structures.

Section 3. Specific Performance. Nothing contained in this Declaration shall be deemed to affect or limit the rights of the Declarant, the Association or any Owner to enforce the Restrictions by appropriate judicial proceedings or to recover damages. However, it is hereby declared that it may be impossible to measure accurately in money the damages which will accrue to a beneficiary hereof, its transferees, successors or assigns, by reason of a violation of, or failure to perform any of the obligations provided by, this Declaration; and, therefore, any beneficiary hereof shall be entitled to relief by way of injunction or specific performance, as well as any other relief available at law or in equity, to enforce the provisions hereof.

#### Section 4. Collection of Assessments and Enforcement of Lien.

(a) If any assessment, interest, cost or other charge is not paid as required by this Declaration, the Association may bring either an action at law against the Owner personally obligated to pay the same, or an action to foreclose any lien created by this Declaration against the Lot or Lots subject to the lien, or both, for the purpose of collecting such assessment, cost or charge, plus any interest thereon and costs of collection, including reasonable attorney's fees.

- (b) As an additional remedy, but in no way as a limitation on the remedies, if any assessment, interest, cost or other charge is not paid as required by this Declaration, each Owner hereby grants to the Association and its assigns the following irrevocable power of attorney to sell the said Lot or Lots subject to the lien at auction, at the usual place for conducting sales at the Courthouse in Cobb County, Georgia, to the highest bidder for cash, after advertising the time, terms and place of such sale once a week for four weeks immediately preceding such sale (but without regard to the number of days) in the paper in which the Sheriff's advertisements for Cobb County, Georgia are published, all other notice being hereby waived by each Owner, and the Association or any person on behalf of the Association, or assigns, may bid and purchase at such sale and thereupon execute and deliver to the purchaser or purchasers at such sale a conveyance of said property in fee simple, which conveyance shall contain recitals as to the happenings of the default upon which the execution of the power of sale herein granted depends, and each Owner hereby constitutes and appoints the Association and assigns, the agent and attorney in fact of each Owner to make such recitals, and hereby covenants and agrees that the recitals so to be made by the Association, or assigns, shall be binding and conclusive upon the Owner whose property is the subject matter of such sale, and the heirs, executors, administrators and assigns of such Owner, and that the conveyance to be made by the Association or assigns, shall be effectual to bar all equity of redemption of such Owner, or the successors in interest of such Owner, in and to said Lot or Lots, and the Association or assigns shall collect the proceeds of such sale, and after reserving therefrom the entire amount of assessment, interest, cost or other charge due, together with all costs and expenses of sale and fifteen percent of the aggregate amount due for attorney's fees, shall pay any excess to such Owner, or to the heirs or assigns of such Owner as provided by law. The power and agency hereby granted are coupled with an interest and are irrevocable by death or otherwise and are granted as cumulative to the remedies for collection of said indebtedness provided by law.
- (c) WAIVER. EACH OWNER, BY ACCEPTANCE OF A DEED CONVEYING A LOT SUBJECT TO THIS DECLARATION, WAIVES ANY RIGHT WHICH OWNER MAY HAVE UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OR THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA OR THE CONSTITUTION OR LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO NOTICE OR TO A JUDICIAL HEARING PRIOR TO THE EXERCISE OF ANY RIGHT OR REMEDY PROVIDED BY THIS DECLARATION, AND OWNER WAIVES OWNER'S RIGHTS, IF ANY, TO SET ASIDE OR INVALIDATE ANY SALE DULY CONSUMMATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS DECLARATION ON THE GROUND (IF SUCH BE THE CASE) THAT THE SALE WAS CONSUMMATED WITHOUT A PRIOR JUDICIAL HEARING. ALL WAIVERS BY OWNER IN THIS PARAGRAPH HAVE BEEN MADE VOLUNTARILY, INTELLIGENTLY AND KNOWINGLY,

AFTER OWNER HAS FIRST BEEN ALLOWED THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT LEGAL COUNSEL WITH RESPECT TO OWNER'S POSSIBLE RIGHTS.

- Section 5. No Waiver. The failure of the Declarant, the Association, or the Owner of any Lot, his or its respective legal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns, to enforce any Restrictions herein contained shall in no event be considered a waiver of the right to do so thereafter, as to the same violation or breach or as to any violation or breach occurring prior or subsequent thereto.
- <u>Section 6.</u> <u>Fines.</u> The Board of Directors may impose fines or other sanctions, for violations of this Declaration, said fines to be collected as provided herein for the collection of assessments.
- Section 7. Notice of Violation. The Board shall have the right to record in the appropriate land records a notice of violation of this Declaration, Bylaws or any rules, regulations, use restrictions, or design guidelines promulgated by the Association and to assess the cost of recording and removing such notice against the foregoing.

# ARTICLE IX DURATION AND AMENDMENT

### Section 1. <u>Duration and Perpetuities</u>.

- (a) The provisions of these covenants shall run with and bind the land and shall be and remain in effect perpetually to the extent permitted by law. Provided, however, so long as Georgia law limits to twenty (20) years, the period during which covenants restricting lands to certain uses may run, any provisions of these Covenants affected thereby shall run with and bind the land for a period of twenty (20) years from the date these Covenants are filed for record in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cobb County, Georgia, after which time such provisions shall be automatically extended, if permitted by law, for successive periods of ten (10) years, unless an instrument, signed by at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the then Owners of record and the holders of first mortgages on their Lots has been recorded in the Office of the Clerk of said Court, agreeing to terminate or change such provisions in whole or in part. Every purchaser or grantee of any interest in any portion of the Property, by acceptance of a deed or other conveyance thereof, thereby agrees that the provisions of these Covenants may be extended and renewed as provided in this section.
- (b) If any of the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements or other provisions of these Covenants shall be unlawful, void or voidable for violation of the Rule Against Perpetuities, then such provisions shall continue only until

twenty-one (21) years after the death of the survivor of the now living descendants of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Queen of England.

Section 2. Amendment. These Covenants may be amended unilaterally at any time and from time to time by Declarant (i) if such amendment is necessary to bring any provision hereof into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule or regulation or judicial determination which shall be in conflict therewith, (ii) if such amendment is necessary to enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage with respect to the Lots subject to these Covenants, (iii) if such amendment is required by an institutional or governmental lender or purchaser of mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to enable such lender or purchaser to make or purchase mortgage loans on the Lots subject to these Covenants, or (iv) if such amendment is necessary to enable any governmental agency, such as the Federal Housing Administration, the Veterans Administration, or reputable private insurance company to insure mortgage loans on the Lots subject to these Covenants; provided any such amendment shall not adversely affect the title to any Owner's Lot, unless any such Owner so affected thereby shall consent thereto in writing. These Covenants may be amended at any time and from time to time by an agreement signed by at least sixty-seven (67%) percent of the Owners; provided, however, such amendment by the Owners shall not be effective unless also signed by the Declarant, if Declarant is the owner of any real property subject to these Covenants; and provided further, however, no amendment affecting the Declarant's right to add additional property shall be effective unless also signed by the Declarant. No amendment to the provisions of these Covenants shall alter, modify, change or rescind any right, title, interest or privilege herein granted or accorded to the holder of any mortgage encumbering any Lot or the Common Property affected thereby unless such holder shall consent in writing thereto. Any such amendment shall not become effective until the instrument evidencing such change has been filed of record in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cobb County, Georgia. The written consent thereto of any mortgage holder affected thereby shall also be filed with such amendment. Every purchaser or grantee of any interest in any real property now or hereafter subject to these Covenants, by acceptance of a deed or other conveyance therefore, thereby agrees that these Covenants may be amended as provided in this Section.

Section 3. Default Approval Procedure. Article VII, Section 7 of this Declaration states that any amendment to this Declaration must be by agreement signed by at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the Owners of Lots. Owners understand and agree that often times this 67% agreement is difficult to obtain due to Owner apathy or other reasons which are not based on a disagreement to such Amendment. Therefore, Owners understand and agree that if an agreement signed by at least 67% of the Owners of Lots cannot be obtained through a meeting, series of meetings or other methods, it may become necessary for the Association to seek to obtain default approval from Owners under this Section. If the Board determines that it is in the best interest of the Association to invoke the powers granted under this Section, the Board shall, by certified mail, send correspondence ("Default Approval Notice") to all Owners who have not cast their vote for or against an amendment. Said Default Approval Notice shall be in a form to be decided on by the Board. However, the Default Approval Notice shall contain information regarding the

amendment under consideration, including a copy of same, and state that the Owner will be deemed to have consented to said amendment unless the Owner, within thirty (30) days of the date of the Default Approval Notice, registers an objection to the amendment in accordance with the guidelines outlined in the Default Approval Notice. If no objection is registered within said thirty (30) day period, the Owner will be deemed to have consented and approved the proposed amendment. This default approval procedure outlined in this Section may be used for all amendments under consideration pursuant to Article VII, Section 7(d) as well as any and all portions of this Declaration which require that the Board invoke any voting/approval procedure.

# ARTICLE X ANNEXATION

- Section 1. Submission of Additional Property. Declarant shall have the option and right from time to time, without the necessity of consent by the Association, the Board or the Owners, but subject to Section 2 of this Article, to submit any property to this Declaration and thereby to cause the Additional Property, or such portions thereof, to become part of the Property. This option may be exercised by the Declarant in accordance with the conditions and limitations set out in Section 2 of this Article, which are the only conditions and limitations on such right.
- Section 2. Conditions of Annexation. Any Annexation as permitted by Section 1 of this Article shall be in accordance with the following terms and conditions:
  - (a) The option to submit portions of the Annexation Property may be exercised at any time and from time to time until seven (7) years from the date this Declaration is recorded; provided, however, that the Owners of Lots to which two-thirds of the Class A votes in the Association appertain, exclusive of any vote or votes appurtenant to Lots then owned by Declarant, may consent to the Extension of such option by vote taken not more than one (1) year prior to the date upon which such option will expire.
  - (b) The legal description of the Additional Property is set forth in Exhibit "B". Portions of the Additional Property may be added at different times, and there are no limitations fixing the boundaries of those portions or regulating the order in which any such portions may become part of the Property.
  - (c) All Lots created on portions of the Additional Property which are added to the Property will be restricted exclusively to residential use, in accordance with Article VI of this Declaration.
  - (d) The option reserved by Section 1 of this Article may be exercised by the Declarant alone (without the consent of the Association or any Owner) by the execution by the Declarant of an amendment to this Declaration which shall be filed for record in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cobb County, Georgia, together with a plat of that portion of the Additional Property which is to

become part of the Property by reason of such amendment. Such plat shall indicate the boundaries of that portion of the Additional Property which is to become part of the Property, the boundaries of all Lots to be located therein, and an identifying number for each such Lot. Any such amendment shall expressly submit that portion of the Additional Property which is to become part of the Property from time to time, and upon the exercise, if any, of such option, the provisions of this Declaration shall be understood and construed as embracing all of the Property, including the initial phase and such portions of the Additional Property as have become part of the Property by annexation in this manner.

- (e) In addition to the procedure outlined in sub-paragraph (d) above, the option reserved by Section 1 of this Article may be exercised with respect to any portions of the Additional Property, notwithstanding that such Additional Property may be owned by persons, including any individual, individuals, corporations, partnerships or any other type of entity, other than Declarant. Declarant shall exercise this option by an amendment to this Declaration which shall be filed for record in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cobb County, Georgia, together with a plat of that portion of the Additional Property which is to become part of the Property by reason of such amendment. Such plat shall indicate the boundaries of that portion of the Additional Property which is to become part of the Property, the boundaries of all Lots to be located thereon, and an identifying number for each such Lot. Any such amendment shall contain a statement consenting to the annexation of any such Additional Property, together with a reference to a Declaration, (citing the specific Deed Book and Page in which such Declaration is recorded) executed by the owner or owners thereof submitting such Additional Property to this Declaration. Upon the exercise of the foregoing procedure, the provisions of this Declaration shall be understood and construed as embracing all of the Property, including the initial phase and such portions of the Additional Property as have become part of the Property by annexation in this manner.
- (f) From and after the date of annexation of any portion of the Additional Property, each Lot so added to the Property and the Owners thereof, shall have the same vote, shall share the same obligations and responsibilities, and shall have the same rights and privileges accorded every other Lot previously comprising part of the Property. Upon annexation of each portion of the Property, as herein provided, the Association shall be deemed to have assumed, automatically, and without the necessity of consent by the Association, the Board or any individual Owners, the covenants to maintain the Common Property and the other obligations imposed by this Declaration, as amended from time to time, with respect to that portion of this Additional Property which is then the subject of annexation.

(g) Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed to a Lot in the Property, and the Association, shall be deemed to have approved annexation in the manner provided in this Article X.

# ARTICLE XII MAINTENANCE: CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY TO ASSOCIATION

Section 1. Association's Responsibilities. The Association shall maintain and keep in good repair the Common Property. This maintenance shall include, without limitation, maintenance, repair, and replacement, subject to any insurance then in effect, of all landscaping and improvements situated on the Common Property. The Association shall also maintain (a) all entry features for the Property, including the landscaping associated therewith (whether or not such landscaping is on a Lot or public right-of-way), and any irrigation system and the expenses for water and electricity, if any, provided to all such entry features, (b) all property outside of Lots located within the Property which was originally maintained by Declarant and (c) the private streets and entrance signage located on the Property.

In addition, the Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, to maintain other property not owned by the Association where the Board has determined that such maintenance would benefit all Owners.

In the event that the Association determines that the need for maintenance, repair, or replacement which is the responsibility of the Association hereunder, is caused through the willful or negligent act of an Owner, or the family, guests, lessees, or invitees of any Owner, and is not covered and paid for by insurance, in whole or in part, then the Association may perform such maintenance, repair or replacement at such Owner's sole cost and expense, and all costs thereof shall be added to and become a part of the assessment to which such Owner is subject and shall become a lien against the Lot of such Owner.

Owner's Responsibility. Except as provided in Section 1 above, all Section 2. maintenance of the Lot and all Structures, parking areas, landscaping, and other improvements thereon shall be the sole responsibility of the Owner thereof, who shall maintain such Lot in a manner consistent with the Community Wide Standard and this Declaration. Sod on all Lots must be the same in the front and rear of the Lots. At no time shall grass be allowed to exceed six inches in height. The Community Wide Standard as used in this paragraph shall mean and refer to the standard of conduct, maintenance or other activity generally prevailing in the Property. Such standard may be more specifically determined by the Board of Directors of the Association but must be consistent with the Community-Wide Standard originally established by the Declarant. In the event that the Board of Directors of the Association determines that any Owner has failed or refused to discharge properly any of such Owner's obligations with regard to the maintenance, repair or replacement of items for which such Owner is responsible hereunder, the Association shall, except in an emergency situation, give the Owner written notice of the Association's intent to provide such necessary maintenance, repair or replacement at the Owner's sole cost and expense. The notice shall set forth with reasonable particularity the maintenance, repairs, or replacement deemed necessary. In the event of the failure or refusal involves lawn and/or yard care, the Owner shall have ten (10) days after receipt of such notice within which to complete such maintenance, repair or replacement. In the event the failure or refusal involves other maintenance, repair or replacement shall be started and completed within a thirty (30) day period. If any Owner does not comply with the provisions hereof, the Association may provide any such maintenance, repair or replacement at such Owner's sole cost and expense, and all costs shall be added to and become a part of the assessment to which such Owner is subject and shall become a lien against the Lot. The remedies provided in the Section shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, other remedies provided in this Declaration for a violation of the Declaration.

# ARTICLE XIII MISCELLANEOUS

- Section 1. Other Changes. Notwithstanding any other provisions hereby which may be construed to the contrary, unless at least two-thirds (2/3) of the first mortgagees (based upon one vote for each first mortgage owned) or Owners (other than the Declarant) of the individual Lots in the Development have given their prior written approval, the Association shall not be entitled to:
  - (a) by act or omission seek to abandon, partition, subdivide, encumber, sell or transfer the Common Property owned, directly or indirectly, by such Association (the granting of easements for public utilities or for other public purposes consistent with the intended use of such common area or property by the Association shall not be deemed a transfer within the meaning of this clause);
  - (b) change the method of determining the obligations, assessments, dues or other charges which may be levied against an Owner;
  - (c) by act or omission change, waive or abandon, any scheme of regulations, or enforcement thereof, pertaining to the architectural design or the exterior appearance of dwellings on the Lots of the Development, the exterior maintenance of Lots and improvements thereon, the maintenance of the Common Property or party walks or common fences or common roadways and driveways, or the upkeep of lawns and plantings in the Development;
  - (d) fail to maintain fire and extended coverage on insurable Association Common Property if any, on a current replacement cost basis in an amount not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the insurable value (based on current replacement cost);
  - (e) use hazard insurance proceeds for losses to any Association Common Property for other than the repair, replacement or reconstruction of such property.

### Section 2. Rights of First Mortgagees.

- (a) First mortgagees of Lots in the Development may, jointly or singly, pay taxes or other charges which are in default and which may or have become a charge against the Association's Common Property and may pay overdue premiums on hazard insurance policies or secure new hazard insurance coverage on the lapse of a policy, for such Common Property and first mortgagees making such payments shall be owed immediate reimbursement therefore from the Association. Despite any other provision of this Declaration which may be interpreted otherwise, it is expressly intended that no Owner or any other party have priority over any rights of the first mortgagee of a Lot pursuant to its mortgage or security deed in the case of a distribution to such Owner of insurance proceeds or condemnation awards for losses to or a taking of Association Common Property.
- (b) In addition to the rights of mortgagees elsewhere provided, each first mortgagee of a Lot, upon request, shall (i) be entitled to written notice from the Association of any default in the performance of his obligations under the Development documents of an Owner which is not cured within sixty (60) days; (ii) be entitled to attend and observe all meetings of Owners, but not meetings of the Board; (iii) be entitled to be furnished copies of annual financial reports made to the Owners; and (iv) be entitled to inspect the financial books and records of the Association during reasonable business hours.
- <u>Section 3</u>. <u>No Reverter</u>. No restriction herein is intended to be, or shall be construed as, a condition subsequent or as creating a possibility of reverter.
- <u>Section 4.</u> <u>Severability</u>. A determination by a court that any provision hereof is invalid for any reason shall not affect the validity of any other provision hereof.
- <u>Section 5</u>. <u>Headings</u>. The headings of the Articles and Sections hereof are for convenience only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of the contents of this Declaration.
- Section 6. Gender. Throughout this Declaration, the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine and neuter, and the singular, the plural, and vice versa.
- <u>Section 7. Notices.</u> All amendments, notices, requests, objections, waivers, rejections, agreements, approvals, disclosures or consents of any kind made pursuant to this Declaration, whether made by the Declarant, the Association, the ACC, the Owner, or any other person, shall be in writing. All such writings shall be sufficient only if deposited in the United States Mail, with sufficient postage, and sent to the following addresses:
  - (a) Declarant: Traton Homes, LLC

### 720 Kennesaw Avenue Marietta, Georgia 30060

(b) Owners: Each Owner's address as registered with the Association in accordance with the By-Laws.

Any written communication transmitted in accordance with this Section 7 shall be deemed received on the third (3rd) day following the day such written notice is deposited in the United States Mail.

Section 8. No Liability. Declarant has, using best efforts and all due diligence, prepared and recorded this Declaration so that each and every Owner shall have the right and the power to enforce the terms and provisions of this Declaration against every other Owner. However, in the event that this Declaration is, for any reason whatsoever, unenforceable by an Owner (or any other person) in a court of law or otherwise, Declarant shall have no liability of any kind as a result of such unenforceability, and each and every Owner, by acceptance of a deed conveying a Lot acknowledges that Declarant shall have no such liability.

<u>Section 9</u>. Declarant, or an entity it designates, shall have the right to manage the Association and charge a reasonable monthly charge for said management. The monthly charge shall be commensurate with the number of Lots managed.

Title: Nhà

Lee K. Chesner

Notary Public

(Seal)

Deed Book 50301 Pg 711
Cathelene Robinson
Clerk of Superior Court
Fulton County, Georgia

# EXHIBIT "A" LEGAL DESCRIPTION VALLEY BROOK SUBDIVISION

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND lying and being in Land Lot 65, 17th District, City of Atlanta, Georgia, as per final plat of Valley Brook Subdivision prepared by Travis Pruitt & Associates, Inc., Travis N. Pruitt, Sr., Georgia Registered Land Surveyor No. 1729, dated January 8, 2007, recorded February 13, 2007 in Plat Book 315, Pages 133-136, Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia Records.