INMAN & STRICKLER P.L.C.

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ROBERT V. TIMMS, JR. • ROS R. WILLIS

December 19, 2017

Brett B. Thompson, Esquire THOMPSON LAW GROUP 4575 Bonney Road, Suite 101 Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Re: Maintenance of Storm Water Facilities/Retention Ponds (BMP's)

Dear Mr. Thompson,

Thank you for the letter of November 14, 2017 which has been forwarded to my office as counsel for the Indian River Farms Owners Association. I have reviewed the information which you have provided and feel it is important that you be made aware of certain omissions or errors in your recitations, the correction of which should allow us to reach an accord.

Initially, you have truncated the provisions of Section 4.1 of Article 4 of the Declaration regarding the repair, replacement and maintenance obligations of the community association. In addition to providing for maintenance of common area, the Association is also responsible for the following:

The <u>Association</u> shall be responsible for the <u>management</u>, <u>control and maintenance</u> of all street intersection signs, directional signs, temporary promotional signs, plantings, street lights, <u>retention ponds</u>, park areas, entrance features and/or "theme areas", lighting, sprinkler systems, stone, wood or masonry wall features and/or related landscaping installed or planted in the common Areas, or in any street or right of way, by the Declarant or the Association, for the benefit of the Members or the Association; provided such items are not maintained by the City of Virginia Beach or the Virginia Department of Transportation. (emphasis added).

The Plat establishing the subdivision, which is an Exhibit to the Declaration and therefore incorporates its provisions, also contains relevant Notes:

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#4 "The City of Virginia Beach is not required by law to maintain the public easements dedicated herein except to the extent said easement is currently being utilized for public purposes."

#16 "Drainage and impoundment easement shall be available for all of the following but not limited to conveyance collection storage, drainage impoundment treatment and other related uses of surface and/or ground water. No alterations whatsoever of the lake and its bank side slopes within the limits of the drainage and impoundment easement is permitted without the approval of the Department of Public Works. City maintenance shall be limited to that as described above."

I believe that we agree that the 20'easement for maintenance, which is depicted on the Plat and other recorded documents, was granted from the Association's developer to the City of Virginia Beach. However, the City's maintenance responsibilities regarding the easement were simultaneously and subsequently delegated to the IRF Association, which is a pretty standard development mechanism. See Planning, Subdivision of Land and Zoning § 15.2-2200 et seq. Between the incorporated Plat Notes, the Developer/Association's agreements with the City and the Declaration, there is a clear mandate that the easement be maintained as a common expense, by the Association. By way of example, I have enclosed the agreement between the City and the developer regarding Lot 55. You will note that it refers to the delegated maintenance obligations contained in the Plat for Section One of Indian River Farms of "a drainage and access easement" and also provides in paraphrased form "The Developer agrees that the City of VB shall not be liable for any maintenance work whatsoever to the areas encompassed by the Easement... All other maintenance of the land encompassed by the Easement shall be performed by the developer, and the City shall have no duty or liability to perform any routine maintenance work to the areas encompassed by the Easement..." The Association is the successor to the Developer and as a matter of law is charged with the maintenance responsibilities assumed by the Developer, specifically maintenance of the drainage easement.

We recognize there has been some confusion engendered by prior Board action and have already explained to our client that the rules and guidelines which were in effect in the Association which stated that the lot owners are responsible for maintenance of the BMP's are invalid. The Resolution relating to such maintenance is improper and conflicts with the Declaration which states that the Association is responsible for the

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"management, control and maintenance" of the retention ponds. The Association's continuing responsibility includes removal of any trees or shrubs which may appear. In light of the requirements imposed by the recorded covenants and the recorded subdivision plat, maintenance (actual and financial) should be reflected in the Association budget and assessed against all lots. Section 8.2 of the Declaration supports the Association's need and authority to enter onto the 20' easement areas for purposes of pond maintenance and, specifically, for the purpose of removing existing trees and plants that may need to be removed in order to maintain and insure the proper functioning of a BMP. All lots benefit from the BMPs because the drainage/stormwater control design for the entire subdivision utilizes them. Shifting the maintenance responsibility to the owners could only be done by amendment of the Declaration, not by mere adoption of a resolution, and we would not make such a recommendation as we feel imposing individual responsibility could impair the BMPs over time. The City would need to consent to any such amendment, in any event, and that is unlikely.

Indian River Farms Owners Association has the right, and the legal obligation, to maintain the Drainage and Impoundment Easement. They have been in contact with the City of Virginia Beach to be certain that they correctly perform the delegated responsibilities and are prepared to enter into appropriate contracts for same. It is my sincere hope that having now been fully apprised of the proper construction of the governing documents, as well as the historical interactions between the City and the developer, you will advise your clients that the contemplated conduct is legally appropriate. Unless I hear something to the contrary, the Association will finalize those agreements by January 10, 2018.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have regarding these matters. With best regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Jeanne S. Lauer

Enclosures

Cc: Board of Directors



THIS INSTRUMENT PREPARED BY: Indian River Farms, LLC

EXEMPTED FROM RECORDATION TAXES UNDER SECTION 58.1-811(A)(3)

THIS DEED OF EASEMENT DEDICATION is made this 25th day of November 2003 by and between Indian River Farms, LLC., a Virginia limited liability company (the "Grantor"), and the CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH, a municipal corporation of the Commonwealth of Virginia (the "Grantee").

WITNESSETH:

That for and in consideration of the mutual benefits accruing or to be accrued to the parties, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Grantor does hereby dedicate, grant and convey to the Grantee, its agents, assigns and/or successors, with GENERAL WARRANTY and ENGLISH COVENANTS OF TITLE, a drainage and access easement (the "Easement") to the Grantee, its agents, assigns and/or successors to construct, reconstruct, alter, operate and maintain drainage facilities (the "Facilities") in, under, upon and across lands and property of the Grantor, including the right of ingress and egress to the same, described as follows:

All those certain pieces or parcels of land situate, lying and being in the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia designated as 12.5' Drainage Easement (311 s.f.) And 15'x5' Access Easement (74.81 s.f.) As shown on that certain plat entitled, "Exhibit Showing Drainage Easement and Access Easement, Lot 55, Subdivision of Indian River Farms Section One (MB 299, p. 31-34)", said Exhibit is attached to which reference is made for a more particular description. It being a part of the same property acquired by the party of the first part from Virginia Partners, L.P., by deed dated October 12, 2001, and recorded in Deed Book 4528, p. 0212 in the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia

REC'D/NOT RECORDED
YALBEACH COURT

GPIN: 1474-80-6610

2004 FEB 25 PM 1: 05

TINA E. SINNEN, CLERK

It is agreed between the parties hereto that the Grantee and its agents, successors, and/or assigns shall have the right to inspect the Easement and the Facilities and to cut and clean all undergrowth and remove other obstructions in and along the Easement or adjacent thereto that may in any way endanger or interfere with the proper use of same and to make use of the adjacent property for ingress and egress and for other activities necessary for the construction, reconstruction, operation and maintenance of the Easement and the Facilities.

The Grantor agrees that the Grantee shall not be liable for any maintenance work whatsoever to the areas encompassed by the Easement except if the Grantee is required to perform excavation within the Easement in order to effectuate maintenance or repair of the Facilities. All other maintenance of the land encompassed by the Easement shall be performed by the Grantor, and the Grantee shall have no duty or liability to perform any routine maintenance work to the areas encompassed by the Easement other than that work which arises out of maintaining or repairing the Easement or the Facilities.

The Grantor agrees that when requested by the Grantee, the Grantor shall remove any fence(s), structure(s), landscaping or vehicle parking within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of written notice requesting such removal. In an emergency or failure to remove after written notice, the Grantee will remove, or have removed by others, any impediment to access, maintenance or operation, and the Grantor agrees that the Grantor shall be responsible for replacement of said fence(s), structure(s), landscaping or vehicle parking at the Grantor's sole expense.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantor has caused this instrument to be executed by its duly authorized representative(s):

Indian River Farms, L.L.C., a Virginia limited liability company

i: W

C. Torrey Breeden, Member/Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM

CITY ATTORNEY

ACCEPTED ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA

BEACH

CTV DEAL ESTATE ACENT

approved as to convint

3

STATE OF VIANUE BLACK, to-wit:

\mathcal{J}	
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 10th day of	of
December, 2003, by Blocky Breeden Une President	οí
Indian River Farms, L.L.C., a Virginia limited liability company, on its behalf.	
Chasulatet Notary Public	

My commission expires: $\sqrt{-30-04}$

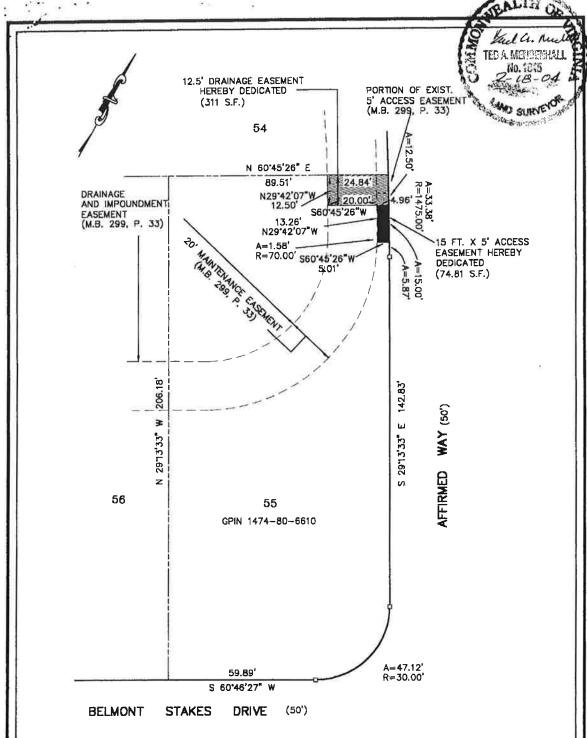


EXHIBIT SHOWING
DRAINAGE EASEMENT AND ACCESS EASEMENT

LOT 55

ΑT

SUBDIVISION OF INDIAN RIVER FARMS, SECTION ONE

VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA SCALE: 1'' = 30' NOVEMBER 21, 2003

NDI, L.L.C.
BASGIER AND ASSOCIATES DIVISION
ENGINEERS-SURVEYORS-PLANNERS
572 CENTRAL DRIVE, SUITE 103, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23454
PHONE: (757) 431-2177 FAX: (757) 431-2175

I TED A MENDENHALL A LAND SURVEYOR DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAT WAS MADE BY ME THE UNDERSIGNED AT THE DIRECTION OF THE OWNERS AND THAT THIS SUBDIVISION IS ENTIRELY WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF LAND COVERED BY DEED DESCRIBED BELOW AND THAT CONCRETED STEEL PINS AS SPECIFIED BY THE SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH VIRGINIA ARE ACTUALLY IN PLACE AT POINTS MARKED THUS . AND/OR AS SHOWN ON THE ACCOMPANYING LEGEND AND THAT THEIR LOCATIONS ARE CORRECTLY SHOWN

SIGNED Koll Mulmell

TED A MENDENHALL VA NO 1845

THE PLATTING OR DEDICATION OF THE FOLLOWING LAND SUBDIMISION OF INDIAN PROF FARMS SECTION ONE LOCATED IN VIRGINA BEACH URGINA IS WITH THE FREE CONSENT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DESTRICT UNDERSCHEED OWNERS WHO CERTIFY THAT THEY ARE THE FEE SIMPLE OWNER(S) OF SAID LAND AND THAT THEXE ARE EXCLUMINEANCES ON THIS PROFERRY THE AND INFO THESE ARE ENCLUBRANCES ON THIS PROPERTY TO THE DEDICATION OF THE STREETS AND EXSEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO THE DEDICATION OF THE STREETS AND EXSEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO THE PURPOSE REFERENCES ON THE PLATA AS WELL AS FOR SURFACE AND UNCERGROUND DRAMAGE AND UTLINES.

THE PROPERTY EMBRACED WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THIS SUBDIVISION WAS CONVEYED TO VIRGINIA PARTNERS L.P. JOURNAL OF THE CITY OF VIRGINA BACKERS LIF A THE BY DEED DATED THE 29TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2000 AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 4306 AT PAGE 0753 IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CITY OF VIRGINA BEACH VIRGINA.

WITNESS THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES THIS 21 DAY OF August 2001

VIRGINIA PARTNERS LP BY MAC-OPILLO GENERAL PARTNER
SIGNED Malet Campulate

DATE Ang 21,2001

M ALBERT CARMICHAEL MANAGER TRUSTEE 98&T

DATE 8/83/5

SAMUEL G SCOTT TRUSTEE 89&T 1

STATE OF MEGINAL TO WIT AND FOR THE CITY AND STATE AFORESAID ON HEREBY CERTIFY THAT
MAJBERT CARNICHAEL MANAGER
WIGGE NAME IS SOUND ID THE FOREGOING WOTING BEARING
DATE ON THE DAY OF THE FORE ONE WE IN MY CITY AND STATE AFORESAID

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS 25 DAY OF __ QUOLIT __ 2001

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES ____ 8/31/02

STATE OF VIRGINIA CITY OF NOVICE TO WIT

AND FOR THE CITY AND STATE AFORESAID OD HEREBY CERTIFY THAT SAMUEL G SCOTT TRUSTEE BEAT WHOSE NAME IS SINGED TO THE FORECOING WRITING BEARING DATE ON THE 25°CL DAY OF ALCUST 2001 HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THE SAME BEFORE ME IN MY CITY AND STATE AFORESAID

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS _2310 DAY OF AUGUST __ 2001

MOTAT PUBLIC FORMULY COOK MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 12-31-02 ENAMY COOK

THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFY THAT THE SUBDIVISION AS IT APPEARS ON THIS PLAT CONFORMS TO THE APPLICABLE REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE SUBDIVISION OF LAND AND IS ACCORDINGLY APPROVED BY SUCH APPROVAL THE UNDERSIGNED DO NOT CERTIFY AS TO THE CORRECTNESS OF THE BOUNDARY STREET OR OTHER LINES SHOWN ON THIS PLAT

APPROVED CHARLE STATE DATE 9/14/01

APPROVED CHARLE STATE DATE 9/14/01

APPROVED PLOSTO CITY OF VIRICINA BEACH VIRINA

APPROVED PLOSTO A DATE POINT DATE 9/14/2001

FURBICION OF PURIC WORKS CITY OF MICHAE BEACH VIRINA

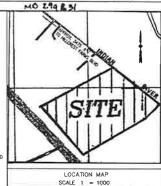
ALL RIGHT-OF-WAYS SHOWN HEREON ARE HEREBY DEDICATED TO THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA

2 THIS PLAT WAS PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 6.3 OF THE SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE

- FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THESE LOTS INCLUDING ANY FILLING OR PHYSICAL ALTERATIONS OF THE LOTS MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL PERMITS FROM THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH OR OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES (SECTION 44(K) SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE)
- THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH IS NOT REQUIRED BY LAW TO MAINTAIN THE PUBLIC EASEMENTS DEDICATED HEREIN EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT SAID EASEMENT IS CURRENTLY BEING UTILIZED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES
- ALL OR PORTIONS OF THIS SUBDIVISION IS LOCATED IN A SOUTHERN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA AND IS SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE SOUTHERN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE
- THIS STE LIES WITHIN ARCRAFT ACCIDENT POTENTIAL ZONE, MA. AMD/OR NOISE ZONE(S) 55-70db Ldn
 AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO ARCRAFT ACCIDENTS AND/OR AROVE AVERAGE NOISE LEVELS BLUE
 TO ITS PROXIMITY TO AIRPORT OPERATIONS. NOISE ZONE ATTENUATION MEASURES FOR
 NEW CONSTRUCTION ARE REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AIRPORT NOISE
 ATTENUATION AND SAFETY ORDINANCE AND HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN IMPOSED
 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 202(6) OF THE CITY ZONING ORDINANCE.
- MERIDIAN SOURCE IS BASED ON VIRGINIA STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM SOUTH ZONE NAD 1983/86 EXPRESSED IN INTERNATIONAL FEET (ONE FOOT EQUAL 0 3048 METERS)
- TOTAL AREA ENCOMPASSED WITHIN THIS SUBDIVISION = 34 327 ACRES
- THERE ARE 66 LOTS IN THIS SUBDIVISION
- A STANDARD FIVE FOOT (5) PRIVATE DRAINAGE EASEMENT IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED ALONG ALL SIDE AND REAR PROPERTY LINES
- MEMBERSHIP IN THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION IS MANDATORY
- A ONE FOOT (1) NO INGRESS/EGRESS EASEMENT ALONG INDIAN RIVER ROAD IS HEREBY DEDICATED
- THIS SUBDIVISION WAS APPROVED FOR THE LUSE OF THE OPEN SPACE PROMOTION. IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 2, SECTION 250 OF THE OTT ZUMNG ORDINANCE BY CITY COUNTILL ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1999 AND A FREAS SHALL BE PERMANENTLY MAINTAINED AS LUNGSCAPED FARX. RECREATIONAL SPACE, OR HATLRAL AREAS. NO GREN SPACE SHALL BE PART OF A PLATTED RESPECTIVE LOT FLOODWAY PERTICN OF ANY FLOODERUN BODY OF WATER WETLANDS OR BE ENGAGEDED BY A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ESSENCE OF EACH MINISTRY (20) FEET NO STRICTURE SHALL BE RECREATED. EXCEPT FOR MAINTENANCE OR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.
- ALL EASEMENTS SHOWN HEREON EXCEPT THOSE INDICATED AS PRIVATE ARE HEREBY DEDICATED TO THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH
- EACH LOT CONTAINS A MINIMUM OF 9 000 SQUARE FEET OUTSIDE OF WATER MARSH AND WETLANDS THE R.COUNKAY PORTION OF THE FLOODFILAIN AND MAHMADE DRAINAGE AREAS AND THE EASEMENTS OVER THEM EXCEPT FOR THE FIRST TEN (10) FEET OF THE PORTAINCE AREA(S) AND EXSEMENT(S)
- DRAINAGE AND IMPOUNDMENT EASEMENT SHALL BE AVAILABLE FOR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CONVEYANCE COLLECTION STORAGE, DRAINAGE IMPOUNDMENT TREATMENT AND OTHER RELATED USES OF SUMPREA AND/OR GROUND WATER. NO ALTERATIONS WHATSOEVER OF THE LAKE AND ITS BANK SIDE SLOPES WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE DRAINAGE AND IMPOUNDMENT EASEMENT IS PERMITTED WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CITY MAINTENANCE SHALL BE LIMITED TO THAT AS DESCRIBED ABOVE
- DUE TO THE HIGH ERODIBULTY OF THE SOIL EXISTING WITHIN OR ADJACENT TO FLOODPILAIN REMOVAL OF EXISTING CONTOURS MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL PERMITS FROM THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH OR OTHER COVERNMENT AGENCIES
- A DEED RESTRICTION HAS BEEN RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT DITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH IN DEED BOOK 1978 PAGE 18-48



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10	1474-81-1214
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42	1474-81-2120
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44	1474-80-3903
45	1474-60-2839
46	1474-80-1675
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58	1474-80-4409
59	1474-80-3446
60	1474-50-2472
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105	1474-81-8106
106	1474-81-7117
107	1474-81-6133
108	1474-81-5079
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Certified to be a TRUE COPY of second in my cust J Curtis Front Clerk Circuft Aur-Virginia Beach Va Deputy Clerk

CLERK MAP 4.6

VIRGINIA IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF MRCHAE BEACH WRIGHTA ON THE ADD DAY OF AND ADMITTED TO RECORD IN MAP BOOK AND ADMITTED TO RECORD IN MAP BOOK

& FRENCH PRINT, CLERK TESTE

TOTAL AREA OF RIGHT-OF-WAY DEDICATED WITH THIS PLAT 4 730 Ac TOTAL AREA ENCOMPASSED BY THIS PLAT = 34 327 ACRES (INCLUDING RIGHT-OF-WAY DEDICATION)

SUBDIVISION INDIAN RIVER FARMS, SECTION ONE

VIRGINIA BEACH VIRGINIA Scale AS SHOWN

MARCH 20 2001

NDI, L L C BASGIER AND ASSOCIATES DIVISION

ENGINEERS-SURVEYORS-PLANNERS
572 Central Drive Suite 103 Virginia Beach VA 23454

SHEET 1 OF 4

