

TAB B

HIDDEN TRAILS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

AMENDED AND RESTATED ASSESSMENT COLLECTION POLICY

Hidden Trails is a community (the “**Community**”) created by and subject to the Hidden Trails Master Covenant [Residential], recorded in the Official Public Records of Comal County, Texas, and any amendments or supplements thereto (the “**Covenant**”). The operation of the Community is vested in Hidden Trails Community Association, Inc., a Texas nonprofit corporation (the “**Association**”), acting through its board of directors (the “**Board**”). The Association is empowered to enforce the covenants, conditions and restrictions of the Covenant, Certificate, Bylaws, Community Manual, and any Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Association pursuant to the Covenant, as adopted and amended from time to time (collectively, the “**Documents**”), including the obligation of Owners to pay Assessments pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Covenant.

The Board hereby adopts this Assessment Collection Policy to establish equitable policies and procedures for the collection of Assessments levied pursuant to the Documents. Terms used in this policy, but not defined, shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Documents.

Section 1. SECTION 1. DELINQUENCIES, LATE CHARGES & INTEREST

- 1-A. Due Date. An Owner will timely and fully pay Assessments. Regular Assessments are assessed annually and are due and payable on the first calendar day of the month at the beginning of the fiscal year, or in such other manner as the Board may designate in its sole and absolute discretion.
- 1-B. Delinquent. Any Assessment that is not fully paid when due is delinquent. When the account of an Owner becomes delinquent, it remains delinquent until paid in full — including collection costs, interest and late fees.
- 1-C. Late Fees & Interest. If the Association does not receive full payment of an Assessment by 5:00 p.m. on the due date established by the Board, the Association may levy a late fee of \$25 per month and/or interest at the highest rate allowed by applicable usury laws then in effect on the amount of the Assessment from the due date thereof (or if there is no such highest rate, then at the rate of 1 and 1/2% per month) until paid in full.
- 1-D. Liability for Collection Costs. The defaulting Owner is liable to the Association for the cost of title reports, certified mail, long distance calls, court costs, filing fees, and other reasonable costs and attorneys’ fees incurred by the Association in collecting the delinquency.
- 1-E. Insufficient Funds. The Association may levy a charge of \$25 for any check returned to the Association marked “not sufficient funds” or the equivalent.
- 1-F. Waiver. Properly levied collection costs, late fees, and interest may only be waived by a Majority of the Board.

TAB B

HIDDEN TRAILS

FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO COMMUNITY MANUAL

Section 2. SECTION 2. INSTALLMENTS & ACCELERATION

If an Assessment, other than a Regular Assessment, is payable in installments, and if an Owner defaults in the payment of any installment, the Association may declare the entire Assessment in default and accelerate the due date on all remaining installments of the Assessment. An Assessment, other than a Regular Assessment, payable in installments may be accelerated only after the Association gives the Owner at least fifteen (15) days prior notice of the default and the Association's intent to accelerate the unpaid balance if the default is not timely cured. Following acceleration of the indebtedness, the Association has no duty to reinstate the installment program upon partial payment by the Owner.

Section 3. SECTION 3. PAYMENTS

- 3-A. Application of Payments. After the Association notifies the Owner of a delinquency and the Owner's liability for late fees or interest, and collection costs, any payment received by the Association shall be applied in the following order, starting with the oldest charge in each category, until that category is fully paid, regardless of the amount of payment, notations on checks, and the date the obligations arose:

(1) Delinquent Assessments	(4) Other reasonable attorneys' fees
(2) Current Assessments	(5) Reasonable fines
(3) Reasonable attorneys' fees and costs associated solely with delinquent Assessments or any other charge that could provide the basis for foreclosure	(6) Any other reasonable amount

- 3-B. Payment Plans. The Association shall offer a payment plan to a delinquent Owner with a minimum term of at least three (3) months and a maximum term of twelve (12) months from the date the payment plan is requested for which the Owner may be charged reasonable administrative costs and interest. The Association will determine the actual term of each payment plan offered to an Owner in their sole and absolute discretion, but such term shall not be longer than eighteen (18) months. An Owner is not entitled to a payment plan if the Owner has defaulted on a previous payment plan in the last two (2) years. The Association is not required to make a payment plan available to a Member after the Delinquency Cure Period allowed under Paragraph 5-B expires. If an Owner is in default at the time the Owner submits a payment, the Association is not required to follow the application of payments schedule set forth in Paragraph 3-A.
- 3-C. Form of Payment. The Association may require that payment of delinquent Assessments be made only in the form of cash, cashier's check, or certified funds.
- 3-D. Partial and Conditioned Payment. The Association may refuse to accept partial payment (*i.e.*, less than the full amount due and payable) and payments to which the payer attaches conditions or directions contrary to the Board's policy for applying payments. The Association's endorsement and deposit of a payment does not constitute acceptance. Instead, acceptance by the Association occurs when the Association posts the payment to the Owner's account. If the Association does not

TAB B

HIDDEN TRAILS

FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO COMMUNITY MANUAL

accept the payment at that time, it will promptly refund the payment to the payer. A payment that is not refunded to the payer within thirty (30) days after being deposited by the Association may be deemed accepted as to payment, but not as to words of limitation or instruction accompanying the payment. The acceptance by the Association of partial payment of delinquent Assessments does not waive the Association's right to pursue or to continue pursuing its remedies for payment in full of all outstanding obligations.

- 3-E. Notice of Payment. If the Association receives full payment of the delinquency after Recording a notice of lien, the Association will cause a release of notice of lien to be publicly Recorded, a copy of which will be sent to the Owner. The Association may require the Owner to prepay the cost of preparing and Recording the release.
- 3-F. Correction of Credit Report. If the Association receives full payment of the delinquency after reporting the defaulting Owner to a credit reporting service, the Association will report receipt of payment to the credit reporting service.

Section 4. SECTION 4. LIABILITY FOR COLLECTION COSTS

- 4-A. Collection Costs. The defaulting Owner may be liable to the Association for the cost of title reports, certified mail, long distance calls, filing fees, and other reasonable costs and attorneys' fees incurred in the collection of the delinquency.

Section 5. SECTION 5. COLLECTION PROCEDURES

- 5-A. Delegation of Collection Procedures. From time to time, the Association may delegate some or all of the collection procedures, as the Board in its sole discretion deems appropriate, to the Association's Manager, an attorney, or a debt collector.
- 5-B. Delinquency Notices. If the Association has not received full payment of an Assessment by the due date, the Association may send written notice of nonpayment to the defaulting Owner, by certified mail, stating: (a) the amount delinquent and the total amount of the payment required to make the account current, (b) the options the Owner has to avoid having the account turned over to a collection agent, as such term is defined in Texas Property Code Section 209.0064, including information regarding availability of a payment plan through the Association, and (c) that the Owner has forty-five (45) days for the Owner to cure the delinquency before further collection action is taken (the "**Delinquency Cure Period**"). The Association's delinquency-related correspondence may state that if full payment is not timely received, the Association may pursue any or all of the Association's remedies, at the sole cost and expense of the defaulting Owner.
- 5-C. Verification of Owner Information. The Association may obtain a title report to determine the names of the Owners and the identity of other lien-holders, including the mortgage company.
- 5-D. Collection Agency. The Board may employ or assign the debt to one or more collection agencies.
- 5-E. Notification of Mortgage Lender. The Association may notify the Mortgage lender of the default obligations.

TAB B

HIDDEN TRAILS

FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO COMMUNITY MANUAL

- 5-F. Notification of Credit Bureau. The Association may report the defaulting Owner to one or more credit reporting services. In that event, at least thirty (30) business days prior to reporting to a credit bureau, a copy of the notice shall be sent via certified mail, hand delivery or electronic delivery to the defaulting Owner, which shall include a detailed report of all delinquent charges owed and information regarding any payment plan opportunities offered to the defaulting Owner. The Association shall not report to a credit report service any delinquent charges, fines, or fees that are the subject of a pending dispute between the defaulting Owner and the Association. The defaulting Owner will not be liable for any costs or fees associated with any actual reporting of any delinquency to the credit reporting services.
- 5-G. Collection by Attorney. If the Owner's account remains delinquent for a period of ninety (90) days, the Manager of the Association or the Board of the Association shall refer the delinquent account to the Association's attorney for collection. In the event an account is referred to the Association's attorney, the Owner will be liable to the Association for its legal fees and expenses. The Association's attorney will ensure the following notices are provided in accordance with Applicable Law:
- (1) Notice of Delinquency: Preparation of written notice of delinquency. If the account is not paid in full by the deadline set forth in the notice letter, then
 - (2) Second Notice: Preparation of the second written notice of delinquency. If the account is not paid in full by the deadline set forth in the notice letter, then
 - (3) Lien Notice: Preparation of the Lien Notice Letter and recordation of a Notice of Unpaid Assessment Lien. If the account is not paid in full by the deadline set forth in the notice letter, then
 - (4) Final Notice: Preparation of the Final Notice of Demand for Payment Letter and any notice required to be sent to any holder of a lien of record on the property whose lien is evidenced by a deed of trust and is inferior or subordinate to the Association's lien. If the account is not paid in full within thirty (30) days, then
 - (5) Foreclosure of Lien: Only upon specific approval by a Majority of the Board.
- 5-H. Notice of Lien. The Association's attorney may cause a notice of the Association's Assessment lien against the Owner's home to be publicly Recorded. In that event, a copy of the notice will be sent to the defaulting Owner, and may also be sent to the Owner's Mortgagee.
- 5-I. Cancellation of Debt. If the Board deems the debt to be uncollectible, the Board may elect to cancel the debt on the books of the Association, in which case the Association may report the full amount of the forgiven indebtedness to the Internal Revenue Service as income to the defaulting Owner.
- 5-J. Suspension of Use of Certain Facilities or Services. The Board may suspend the use of the Common Area amenities by an Owner, or such Owner's tenant, whose account with the Association is delinquent for at least forty-five (45) days.

NOTE: Texas law requires that at least two (2) notices precede the recording of any lien. For accounts that become delinquent on or after September 1, 2023, a lien may only be recorded after notice of the delinquency has been sent: (1) to the Owner by email using an email address the Owner has provided to the Association or, alternatively by first-class mail (the first-class mail requirement may be satisfied by a letter sent by USPS certified mail) sent to the Owner's last known mailing address, as reflected in the records maintained by the Association; and also (2) to the Owner, by certified mail, return receipt requested, directed to the Owner's last known mailing address, as reflected in the records maintained by the Association. The certified letter must be sent at least thirty (30) days after the first required notice of delinquency has been sent to the Owner, and the lien may only be recorded if at least ninety (90) days have passed since the date the certified delinquency notice was sent to the Owner. The foregoing requirements conform to the requirements set forth in Chapter 209 of the Texas Property Code and apply only to the extent Applicable Law continues to require such notices before a lien may be recorded.

Section 6. SECTION 6. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 6-A. Independent Judgment. Notwithstanding the contents of this detailed policy, the officers, directors, Manager, and attorney of the Association may exercise their independent, collective, and respective judgment in applying this policy.
- 6-B. Other Rights. This policy is in addition to and does not limit the rights of the Association to collect Assessments under the Documents and Applicable Law.
- 6-C. Limitations of Interest. The Association, and its officers, directors, Managers, and attorneys, intend to conform strictly to the applicable usury laws of the State of Texas. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Documents or any other document or agreement executed or made in connection with this policy, the Association will not in any event be entitled to receive or collect, as interest, a sum greater than the maximum amount permitted by Applicable Law. If from any circumstances whatsoever, the Association ever receives, collects, or applies as interest a sum in excess of the maximum rate permitted by law, the excess amount will be applied to the reduction of unpaid Assessments, or reimbursed to the Owner if the Assessments are paid in full.
- 6-D. Notices. Unless the Documents, Applicable Law, or this policy provide otherwise, any notice or other written communication given to an Owner pursuant to this policy will be deemed delivered to the Owner upon depositing same with the U.S. Postal Service, addressed to the Owner at the most recent address shown on the Association's records, or on personal delivery to the Owner. If the Association's records show that an Owner's property is owned by two (2) or more persons, notice to one co-Owner is deemed notice to all co-Owners. Similarly, notice to one Resident is deemed notice to all Residents. Written communications to the Association, pursuant to this policy, will be deemed given on actual receipt by the Association's president, secretary, managing agent, or attorney.
- 6-E. Amendment of Policy. This policy may be amended by the Declarant during the Development Period and, thereafter, by a Majority of the Board. Any amendment to this policy must have the prior written approval of Development Owner for so long as Development Owner owns any Lot or portion of the Property.

TAB B
HIDDEN TRAILS

FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO COMMUNITY MANUAL