**MEMBERSHIP POLICY**

**Assessment of Costs to Members:**
Assessments for Primary and Associate members will be set at the time each budget is adopted. Modifications to the budget may be adopted at any regularly scheduled ARC meeting, provided however, that assessments, once established for any member, shall not be increased during the calendar year for which they were established.

*Primary and Associate Members* joining after the start of the fiscal year budget shall be assessed proportionately based on the quarter of the year they join using the same formula as was applied to other members.

*Primary and Associate Members* are responsible for the payment of annual dues until a termination of membership is stated in writing. Primary and Associate members terminating membership after the start of the fiscal year budget and after paying their assessments shall not be given a refund of dues.

**Designated Representatives for Primary and Associate Members:**
During the first quarter of every year, the ARC shall send out verification of Designated Representatives to each Primary and Associate Member. Any Primary or Associate Member may choose to use their consulting engineer to represent them at Full ARC meetings or on any ARC committee. However, the community member must be designated as the ARC Representative, and the consultant as the community’s Alternate Representative to the ARC. ARC members must complete an ARC Member Verification form annually to designate their Designated Representative and the Alternate Representative.

**Participation in Grant Funding Activities:**
In order to benefit from an ARC grant-funded program, the ARC Primary or Associate Member must be a member in good standing in the Alliance of Rouge Communities and have paid their annual dues. Non-voting Cooperating Partners can benefit from ARC grant-funded programs as long as they comply with the ARC policy for Cooperating Partners. Payment of the annual assessment for Primary and Associate Members is due within 60 days after the date of the invoice or the start of the member’s fiscal year, whichever is later. In the event that an ARC member participating in a grant-funded program subsequently chooses not to remain an ARC member during the term of the grant, the ARC may terminate the grant funding before program completion. The ARC may also pursue reimbursement of any grant funding awarded, should that mechanism be part of the grant agreement.