TO: MIKE COFFIELD, Interim County Administrative Officer  
TOM GUARINO, County Counsel

FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE FURTHER ACTION REGARDING CONTINUATION OF THE LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO LANDSLIDES ON HIGHWAY 140 ENROUTE TO YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

RESOLUTION 06-217

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on June 13, 2006

ACTION AND VOTE:

Discussion and Possible Further Action Regarding Continuation of the Local Emergency Due to Landslides on Highway 140 Enroute to Yosemite National Park (County Counsel/Interim County Administrative Officer)

BOARD ACTION: Allen Johnson, U. S. Forest Service Incident Command Team, gave a power point presentation on the landslide, which has been named the “Ferguson rock slide.” He advised of the objectives developed by the Incident Management Team. He advised that they have people in from the Army Corps of Engineers and geologists to evaluate the situation and the potential situation if the slide blocks the river. He noted that they now feel that the worse-case scenario would be a 100-foot dam. Discussion was held relative to their review of options for keeping the river flowing and for removing the debris. Supervisor Fritz suggested that an opportunity be given for the merchants to sell the rocks. Supervisor Stetson advised of public meetings scheduled in Midpines and El Portal this week to provide the public with information on the status of slide.

Dave Martin, District Ranger for the Sierra National Forest, advised that all of the agencies, including CalTrans, the National Park Service, and the Sheriff’s Department are working on this situation and trying to find solutions to the hardships of those being affected by this disaster.

Kevin Cann, Yosemite National Park, advised of issues they are working on. He advised that they have not been seeing an increase in the other entrances to the Park. He noted they are working with their gateway partners to alternate press releases to be more effective.

Chairman Stetson noted that the Sheriff’s Department has been preparing evacuation plans for worse-case scenarios. Jim Allen, Sheriff, provided input on their notification planning and he advised that they have been in contact with those that could be affected. He also commended the Interim County Administrative Officer for his assistance.

Supervisor Turpin commented on using Highway 132 as an alternate route.

Input from the public was provided by the following:
A lady from the audience commented on using Tioga Pass. Ken Gosting, TIE (Transportation Involves Everyone) commented on attempts to correct the message information system. He stated they feel there is a need for people to get together on the information that is being put out.

Leroy Radanovich introduced Jeanine Scott of White Water Rafting Expeditionis. Jeanine Scott commented on the information that is being put out relative to the status of rafting; and she advised that they are rafting every day below the slide, and she asked that the information to the public be correct.

Ken Gosting referred to TIE's previous input relative to the trail improvements along Mariposa Creek, and he suggested that the project be expedited as it could be used by the tourists.

Dick Hutchinson, speaking for the downtown merchants, asked that a positive attitude be put forth. Supervisor Fritz noted that this is the time when everyone needs to be shopping locally.

Eleanor Keuning stated she agrees that the public should be encouraged to visit.

(M)Pickard, (S)Turpin, Res. 06-217 was adopted finding the local emergency due to the landslides on Highway 140 enroute to Yosemite National Park continues to exist, and continuing the local emergency based on the findings/Ayes: Unanimous.