RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Selection of Engineering Solution to Mitigate the Cease and Desist Order (No. 99-005) Issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board and Authorization for Public Works to Complete Bid Documents and Assessment Engineering for the Yosemite West Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Facility

Staff is requesting that the Board of Supervisors approve the recommended engineering solution for the Yosemite West Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Facility and direct Public Works to complete the bid documents for said project. In addition, staff is requesting authorization to complete the assessment engineering required for compliance with Proposition 218. Once the bid documents and assessment engineering are complete, staff will return with any available financing alternatives, review of the assessment engineering, timing of public hearings etc. and request authorization to continue with the Proposition 218 process.

Funds to complete this portion of the process are included in the Yosemite West CIP Fund 545.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The California Regional Quality Control Board issued Cease and Desist Order No. 99-005 due to an inadequate wastewater treatment and disposal system that resulted in a building moratorium at Yosemite West. As part of the Cease and Desist order, the County upgraded and otherwise made a series of repairs to assure that the present wastewater system adequately handled the present demand at Yosemite West. To date, the County has provided approximately $880,000 for repairs and upgrades. In order to allow construction, the present system needs additional repairs and upgrades to meet future demand.

Public Works enlisted the aid of Psomas Engineering to investigate various options. As a result of an extensive investigation, the possible engineering solutions were narrowed down to two options of which Psomas has recommended the "drip system approach." The Yosemite West Advisory Committee recently voted unanimously to recommend the drip system approach.

Finally, Public Works staff is recommending that the drip system approach be the selected alternative.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Staff may be directed to continue investigating possible engineering alternatives. This would result in additional cost and a delay in compliance with the Cease and Desist Order issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB). The CRWQCB could impose sanctions for the delay.

COSTS: ( ) Not Applicable
A. Budgeted current FY> $________
B. Total anticipated Costs> $________
C. Required additional funding> $________
D. Internal transfers> $________

SOURCE: (X) 4/5th Vote Required
A. Unanticipated revenues> $________
B. Reserve for contingencies> $________
C. Source description: >
Balance in Reserve Contingencies, If Approved: $________

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:
1. Executive Summary
2. Petropulos memo dated 5/31/01
3. [Additional instructions]
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| C.A.O. Initials: _______________________ |
MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO:      JIM PETROPULOS, Public Works Director
FROM:    MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: Engineering Solution for the Yosemite West Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Facility Res. -01-172

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on June 12, 2001

ACTION AND VOTE:

Jim Petropulos, Public Works Director;
Approve the Recommended Engineering Solution for the Yosemite West Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Facility, Authorize the Public Works Director to Complete the Bid Documents for This Project, and Authorize the Public Works Director to Complete the Assessment Engineering for Compliance with Proposition 218

BOARD ACTION: Supervisor Reilly acknowledged and thanked the members of the Yosemite West community and Maintenance Advisory Committee and Public Works staff for their efforts on this matter. Jim Petropulos presented the staff report and recommended proceeding with the option to modify and/or expand the existing treatment site and dispose of the effluent by drip irrigation; that the engineer be authorized to continue with designing the system; and that the assessment engineer be authorized to proceed with the Proposition 218 process.

Michael Sklenfield, Biological/Wetland Consultant, gave a presentation on the recommended drip system, and responded to questions from the Board.
Discussion was held relative to the recommendation. Dana Hertfelder, Assistant Public Works Director, presented a sample of the pipe used in the drip irrigation method.
Input from the public was provided by the following:

Neil Meisner, resident of Yosemite West, expressed concern with the flow capacity of the proposed system.

Staff advised that the system would be designed to handle the build-out capacity of Yosemite West, and they plan to maintain the existing system.

Tim Miller, planning consultant working with the Yosemite Associates, advised that he has been attending the Yosemite West Planning Advisory Committee meetings as he was not aware of the Yosemite West Maintenance District Advisory Committee. He suggested that consideration be given when designing
the system of future uses of the area and the zoning, and perhaps future expansion. He advised that the owners he represents are willing to continue to work with the County and explore options for expansion.

Carol Meisner thanked Public Works and Supervisor Reilly for their efforts on this matter. She asked about the Proposition 218 process and whether the votes are public. Jeff Green, County Counsel, advised that the Board’s adopted policy states the votes are confidential.

Don Pitts, resident of Yosemite West and member of the Maintenance District Advisory Committee, stated the Committee supports the recommendation. He commented on the sewage flow at build-out of the District, and he asked how much the grass areas would transpire versus the forested areas with the drip irrigation.

(M)Reilly, (S)Pickard, Res. 01-172 adopted directing Public Works to move forward with the engineering design and bid process based on the recommended drip irrigation system, and to begin the work on the assessment engineering required for compliance with Proposition 218. Discussion was held relative to the status of funding for this project. Greg Iturria, County Administrative Officer, advised that this will be further discussed during budget preparations for the next fiscal year. Jim Petropulos advised that additional funding will be needed in the next fiscal year to complete the direction given today. Supervisor Stewart thanked Public Works for meeting with Board members to share information on this project. Ayes: Unanimous.

cc: File