IN LIEU OF
DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2009
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING

I. CITY CLERK

II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL

MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. City prepared for winter weather.

CITY OMBUDSMAN
1. Letter from Barbara Ramm regarding the city dog laws and irresponsible pet owners with a reply from City Ombudsman Lin Quenzer.

DIRECTORS

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
1. NEWS RELEASE. Health Department asks for community’s help with 2009 H1N1 flu.
2. NEWS RELEASE. Health Department no longer has seasonal flu vaccine.

III. COUNCIL RFI’S AND CITIZEN CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL
1. Correspondence from Dan Joyce regarding Terrewalks, a sidewalks replacement system which is 100% recycled, unbreakable, and an interlocking open-grid system.
   a) Information on Terrewalks from Rubbersidewalks, Inc.
   b) Terrewalks advertisement, as seen in GPN, Government Product News.

V. ADJOURNMENT
**NEWS RELEASE**

CITY OF LINCOLN  
NEBRASKA  
PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES DEPARTMENT  
Street Maintenance Operations, 901 N. 6th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7701, Fax 441-8194

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 19, 2009  
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Scott Opfer, Public Works and Utilities, 441-7851

**CITY PREPARED FOR WINTER WEATHER**

City Public Works and Utilities officials today told the City Council they are ready to handle more snow and ice with about $4.5 million available for future snow operations this winter. With funds remaining from last winter and newly budgeted amounts, the City had about $4.58 million available, and has used about $75,000 so far.

Street and Traffic Operations Manager Scott Opfer said Lincoln now has 2,700 lane miles of streets, and the City is divided into 19 routes for snow removal and material spreading operations. He said keeping major arterial streets and snow emergency routes cleared is the first priority during a storm. “The public can help a great deal by keeping their vehicles off the streets, staying home if possible and driving with caution if they do need to be out,” Opfer said.

The City can issue two types of snow removal parking bans:

- A snow emergency means that parking is banned on emergency snow routes, arterial streets and City bus routes.
- A residential parking ban will begin on the even-numbered (north and east) sides of the street in ALL residential areas. Once the ban on the even-numbered sides has ended, parking will then be banned on the odd-numbered (south and west) sides of the street in ALL residential areas. Parking is again allowed on the even sides.

Those living in cul-de-sacs are asked to move vehicles off the street when the even residential parking ban begins and to keep cars off the street until the area has been plowed. Specialized equipment is used in cul-de-sacs because regular plows are too large to maneuver well.

Public Works will continue to be proactive by applying anti-icing materials. Opfer said the mixture of salt and water acts like a “Teflon coating” to help minimize frost build-up and the development of “black ice” on streets and bridges. The material application also makes removal of snow and ice build-up easier.

The City reminds residents that it is illegal to push or blow snow into or on any street, alley or sidewalk. When clearing sidewalks, residents should also clear wheelchair ramps, curb cuts and access to fire hydrants. Information on snow operations will be available from local media, City cable channels 5 and 10, the City Web site (lincoln.ne.gov) and the Windstream phone directory.
CONGRESS

Health care bill proceeds to Senate floor; FY 2010 spending bills stalling in Senate. After more than two weeks of consideration, and many more weeks of behind-the-scenes negotiations, the Senate Finance Committee approved its version of a health care reform bill this week. All of the Finance Committee Democrats and Maine Republican Olympia Snowe voted for the measure.

The bill must be combined now with legislation approved by the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee and sent to the Senate floor for what will be a partisan, high-profile debate. The delicate job of combining the bills will fall to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), who will need to balance the wishes of liberal Democrats who want a “public option” included in the HELP bill with the need to secure the votes necessary to ensure passage. Adding to the intrigue is the fact that Reid faces a difficult race for re-election next year.

While the battles over matters such as a public option and physician Medicare reimbursements will dominate the headlines, the pending health care reform bills do have provisions that would benefit local governments. Almost $90 billion over the next ten years would be set-aside for items such as local wellness and prevention programs and community health centers through the Centers for Disease Control and Department of Health and Human Services.

Meanwhile, hopes that Congress could approve all 12 FY 2010 appropriations bills individually for the first time in years have dimmed by the usual culprit – slow going in the Senate. The Senate managed to approve the second House-Senate conference report for FY 2010 spending (Energy and Water Development) this week, but the bill had to overcome several parliamentary roadblocks by Republicans to get through. Now the Senate is stalled on its version of the FY 2010 bill for the Department of Commerce and Justice over a Republican amendment regarding immigration and the 2010 Census.

With the current Continuing Resolution (CR) keeping government operations running set to expire in two weeks, Congressional leaders will have to decide soon whether to seek another short-term CR or throw in the towel and roll all the remaining bills into an omnibus spending measure. Congress is expected to be debating health care and other matters (possibly climate change) into December, so there is time to approve other measures, but some type of mini-omnibus appears to be inevitable.

Next week, the House will consider legislation to authorize investments at the Department of Energy in a variety of solar energy technologies and will wait for any appropriations conference reports that may be completed. The Senate will continue to work through its various appropriations issues (Department of Homeland Security conference report is the best candidate for approval), and may also consider an extension of unemployment benefits.

HEALTH

House committee approves Ryan White reauthorization. The House Energy and Commerce Committee approved legislation (HR 3792) this week that would reauthorize federal HIV/AIDS programs at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through 2013.

The House measure is similar to legislation approved two weeks ago by the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, including annual five
percent boosts in the program authorization level so that it would reach $2.9 billion in FY 2013. The program received $2.2 billion in FY 2009 appropriations.

Other provisions of the House bill that mirror the Senate bill include:

- Eliminating the sunset provisions of the previous law so that programs can receive appropriations without an authorization
- Providing incentives for early identification of those infected with HIV/AIDS
- Requiring states to implement strategies for identifying, diagnosing, and treating those who are unaware that they have HIV/AIDS
- Setting a goal of conducting five million AIDS tests nationally through federal HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs

Also included in both bills is language that is designed to ensure that emergency responders are notified if they will be in contact with a victim of an emergency that has a communicable infectious disease. Local health officials are concerned that these provisions would jeopardize patient confidentiality and conflict with state and local notification rules that are already in place.

The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act was to sunset on September 30 and there was some concern that Congress would not act in time to keep the programs running. However, a reprieve was provided when a one-month extension of the programs was included in the Continuing Resolution (CR) approved by Congress to keep government operations running through October in the absence of FY 2010 appropriations bills.

In order to avoid another extension, bill sponsors in both the House and Senate are looking to bring their bills to the floor prior to the October 31 deadline.

TRANSPORTATION
House hearing held on high-speed rail grant funding. A hearing was held this week in the Railroads Subcommittee of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (T&I) on the use of high-speed rail funding that was provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). ARRA provided $8 billion for high-speed rail grants, and the application period closed recently.

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), the agency responsible for reviewing these applications and awarding funding, received over 200 applications totaling approximately $57 billion. Applications varied from smaller projects that would increase speeds on existing routes to larger-scale projects that would eventually establish multiplicity routes. ARRA made no distinction between the two types of projects, and FRA has said that the funds for each type would depend on the applications received.

The FRA will decide in the coming months how best to award the ARRA funds, and members of the Railroad Subcommittee urged FRA Administrator Joseph C. Szabo to focus on just a few systems in the country and award funds accordingly. Railroads Subcommittee Chair Corrine Brown (D-FL.) encouraged the use of funds for several major projects, to which Rep. Bill Shuster (R-PA.), the ranking member on the Subcommittee, agreed. Shuster recommended that the high-speed rail funding not be spread around too many systems, but devoted to systems that will really work.

According to stakeholders, the leading contenders for ARRA high-speed rail grant funding include a Midwest network centered on Chicago; a California corridor linking Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego, and a Florida corridor that includes Miami, Orlando, and Tampa. Rep. John Mica (R-FL.), ranking member on the full T&I Committee, singled out the Northeast Corridor during his remarks, which runs from Boston to Washington, D.C., as the corridor in most dire need of funds.

Though not an official high-speed rail corridor, this route is eligible for ARRA funding.

FRA Administrator Szabo said awards will be made this winter, but none will be announced before January.

CHEMICAL SECURITY
House panel marks up chemical security measures. The Subcommittee on Energy and Environment of the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved two bills (HR 2868 and HR 3258) this week that would reauthorize the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Security Act (CFATS) and create a parallel system of chemical security for water utilities.

The Subcommittee action comes as Congress faces a deadline to reauthorize CFATS, which expired at the end of last month but was kept alive by a short-term extension that expires at the end of this month. The Homeland Security Committee approved HR 2868 earlier this year but the Energy and Commerce Committee, which also has jurisdiction over the bill, has since then been negotiating changes to the bill, including addressing some of the concerns raised by local governments and water and wastewater utilities.

The first bill (HR 2868) would reauthorize CFATS. The second bill (HR 3258) is a direct response to local government and utility industry concerns that including water utilities in CFATS would place them under conflicting regulatory mandates and create major new expenses in their efforts to treat drinking water so that it meets federal standards.

Under a compromise worked out between the two committees, local government and utility organizations, drinking water utilities would not be brought under CFATS and therefore subject to Department of Homeland Security regulation. Instead, the bill would mandate that all water utilities conduct vulnerability assessments, prepare site security plans and prepare emergency response plans. The bill would require the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop risk-based standards for those...
assessments and plans and would also give EPA final authority on approving them.

However, the bill would give the states primary regulatory responsibility in this area. HR 3258 would also authorize $315 million in FY 2011 and such sums as may be necessary in subsequent years through FY 2015 for formula grants to states and water utilities for administrative costs, security improvements and utility worker training.

Local government and utilities still have a number of concerns about the bills as they move forward, including the lack of an appeal process for disapproved plans or unworkable regulations and the continued inclusion of wastewater utilities under CFATS.

However, legislation has been introduced in the House that would create an EPA chemical security program for wastewater utilities similar to that outlined for water utilities in HR 3258. The committees involved plan to combine the bills for consideration by the full House, possibly as soon as later this month. The Senate has yet to take any action on similar legislation.

STIMULUS WATCH
Weekly update on stimulus activities.

Office of Management and Budget
The first reporting period ended on October 10, 2009. Since this was the first time recipients were submitting data reports, and because some states are encountering technical challenges in filing reports for their recipients, www.federalreporting.gov will remain open for reporting until October 20, 2009. However, they must explain their reasons for delayed reporting, and they will be identified on www.recovery.gov as late filers.

Recovery Act Website
Prime recipients and sub-recipients filed a total of 112,219 reports on www.federalreporting.gov during the first quarterly reporting period. Of the total number of awards reported, 8,927 were contract awards, 102,901 were grants, and 391 were loans: http://www.recovery.gov/News/featuredPages/RecipientReported.aspx

Earl E. Devaney, chairman of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, released a statement discussing the public disclosure of recipient reports that will take place on October 30, 2009: http://www.recovery.gov/About/Chairman/Pages/Oct13.aspx

Recipient awards have been organized by state and agency on recovery.gov: http://tiny.cc/59RuG

Department of Energy
DOE has compiled a list of all grant awardees:
http://www.energy.gov/recovery/documents/recoveryactfunding.xls

Department of Transportation
Recipients that submitted reports by the October 10 deadline should review those reports and revise them as necessary by October 21. Recipients who experienced technical problems submitting their reports to federalreporting.gov may submit late reports until October 20. FTA emphasizes that noncompliance with the reporting requirements will be treated as a violation of the grant award agreement and systematic or chronic reporting problems may result in temporary holds on reimbursement, termination of Federal funding and/or initiation of suspension and disbarment proceedings: http://www.fta.dot.gov/index_9440.html.

GRANTS & NOTICES

National End. for the Humanities
NEH is accepting applications for planning and implementation grants under the Interpreting America’s Historic Places Program. Projects under this program should interpret a place that played a significant role in American history, interest broad audiences and engage the public in learning. Local governments are encouraged to work with a partner organization that has experience in developing and implementing humanities programs. Cost-sharing is not required but NEH grants usually cover no more than 50-60 percent of project costs. Applications are due January 13, 2010: http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/IAHP_Planning.html.

Inst. of Museum and Library Services
IMLS announced the FY 2010 Museum Grants for African American History and Culture (AAHC). The program provides opportunities for staffs of African American museums to gain knowledge and abilities to enhance institutional capacity and sustainability. Eligible applicants include Historically Black Colleges or Universities (HBCUs), non-profit organizations, and museums (as defined in the grant guidelines). A 1:1 cost share is required. Applications are due January 15, 2010: http://www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/AfricanAmerican.shtm.
Dear Ms. Ramm:

Thanks for writing Mayor Beutler and the City Council about your hopes to strengthen Lincoln's animal control ordinances and to voice your concerns about dogs at 5601 M Street. I am forwarding your email to Jon Carlson, Mayor Beutler's aide for Stronger, Safer Lincoln, to update you on work to make our animal control ordinances more effective.

I will be investigating your concerns about the pit bulls at 5601 M Street. Please contact me directly so that I can get more information on your experiences with these animals and the Animal Control Division's responses to your issues with the dogs.

Your time in bringing your concerns to the attention of the Mayor's office is very much appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Lin Quenzer
Ombudsman
Office of the Mayor
City of Lincoln, Nebraska
555 South 10th Street, Suite 208
Lincoln, NE  68508
lquenzer@lincoln.ne.gov
402.441.7511
Today, I wanted to enjoy being out in my yard; however, once again, the dogs are on the loose, which are no less, pit bull dogs; and as such, do not feel safe to be out. This is not right. As such, I am compelled to write today to urge each and every one of you to act....Please make it your top priority to pass more comprehensive and stricter laws against dangerous dogs and irresponsible owners, as soon as possible. Thank you.

Barbara
Barbara J. Ramm
Real Estate Appraiser & Consultant
5632 M Street
Lincoln, NE 68510
402.327.0873
Health Department Asks for Community’s Help with 2009 H1N1 Flu

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department is asking for the community’s help with the current 2009 H1N1 flu situation in Lincoln. The level of influenza illness in Lincoln is very high and that is putting a tremendous stress on health care services in hospital emergency rooms and healthcare provider offices. The Department is asking that those with mild flu symptoms to just stay home, rest, drink fluids and treat the fever if necessary. Persons with mild symptoms, who are not at high risk for complications due to flu, do not need to go to the hospital emergency department or contact their health care provider. The use of emergency rooms and provider offices by large numbers of persons with mild illness makes it very difficult for those with more serious illnesses to access health services. In three to five days most individuals with influenza will have recovered and be able to return to their normal activities without needing to be seen and/or treated by a healthcare provider. In most cases, when flu in the community is widespread as it is now, it is not necessary that a person be tested for flu, if they have flu symptoms.

The hospital emergency room should be used for people who are very sick. If a person has the flu and develops any of these symptoms, they should go to the emergency room. The symptoms that would indicate the need to seek medical care right away are:
In children

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough
- Fever with a rash

In adults

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
- Sudden dizziness
- Confusion
- Severe or persistent vomiting

A person with flu symptoms, who is at high risk of flu complications, should call their health care provider for advice. Those at high risk of complications from flu are:

Children younger than 5, but especially children younger than 2 years old
People 65 and older
Pregnant women
People who have:
  - Cancer
  - Blood disorders (including sickle cell disease)
  - Chronic lung disease [including asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)]
  - Diabetes
  - Heart disease
  - Kidney disorders
  - Liver disorders
  - Neurological disorders (including nervous system, brain or spinal cord)
  - Neuromuscular disorders (including muscular dystrophy and multiple sclerosis)
  - Weakened immune systems (including people with AIDS)
Based on the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department’s weekly flu surveillance over the last two weeks flu activity in the community has increased significantly. The increased flu activity is due to the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus. The high number of individuals infected by the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus is the result of very few individuals having any immunity to this new virus. For the typical seasonal flu it’s likely that a fairly high percentage of individuals within the community will have immunity to seasonal influenza viruses, mostly due to having been vaccinated against seasonal influenza. Therefore, the percent of individual’s susceptible to the flu is lower. That’s not the case right now with the 2009 H1N1 virus.
Health Department No Longer has Seasonal Flu Vaccine

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department has administered all the seasonal flu vaccine it has received. Although the Department has an additional 700 doses of the seasonal flu vaccine on order, it is not known when it will arrive.

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department’s seasonal flu vaccine was used to immunize children between the ages of 6 months through 18 years of age and low income uninsured adults.

The Health Department continues to post many of the locations where seasonal flu vaccine is still available in the community at www.lincoln.ne.gov, Keyword “Flu”.

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department is not administering the new 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine at this time.
Dear City Official,

Broken sidewalks are an urban epidemic, causing trip hazard injuries and costly lawsuits, and threatening the loss of trees. Damaged sidewalks are often neglected because replacing them is costly and pointless. They will be broken again in less than ten years—if they are replaced with concrete.

We encourage you to use this opportunity for funding to replace your unsafe sidewalks with TERREWALKS, a 100% recycled, unbreakable, interlocking open-grid sidewalk system. TERREWALKS is designed for ease of installation, cost-savings, longevity, and environmental benefits including storm water management, heat island reduction, and tree preservation. In addition, cities like Santa Monica have been using the products for over 10 years and have seen a huge cost savings, less lawsuits and the ability to catch up on their sidewalks maintenance.

You need to ask yourself, is what we are doing really working? And are you ready to make a change?

Please feel free to preview the attached documents and please visit our web site.

Sincerely,

Dan Joyce
Vice President

e-mail danjoyce@rubbersidewalks.com

Rubbersidewalks, Inc.
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Fountain Valley, CA  92708

tel 714-964-1400 fax 714-964-8600

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CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:
This electronic mail message and any attached files contain information intended for the exclusive use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is proprietary, privileged, confidential and/or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any viewing, copying, disclosure or distribution of this information may be subject to legal restriction or sanction. Please notify the sender, by electronic mail or telephone, of any unintended recipients and delete the original message without making any copies.
TERREWALKS™ is the new generation of Rubbersidewalks. Like Rubbersidewalks, this alternative to concrete sidewalks and pathways is cost-effective and contributes multiple points toward LEED certification—including 100% recycled, reduced heat island effect, storm water management, and innovative design.

For cities and site managers struggling with public safety and the chronic cost of replacing broken sidewalks, TERREWALKS is your solution. Designed to accommodate tree root growth, frost heave and vehicular traffic without damage, TERREWALKS provides immediate cost savings.

Architects and designers looking for beautiful, stylish and LEED-worthy pavement will find TERREWALKS exceeds all expectations. Available in custom color choices and surfaces resembling granite, marble and stone, TERREWALKS is the ultimate pavement choice for Green building and landscapes.

TERREWALKS is fabricated with patented low energy technology that produces uniquely high performance, durable and attractive pavement.

Start saving now as you pave your way to the future.
TERREWALKS™ are modular interlocking paving tiles made of 100% recycled tire rubber and waste plastic, and organic colorant then molded under compression. TERREWALKS™ meets all requirements of sidewalk-worthiness, including stable grade, non-vibration in compliance with ADA requirements, and high coefficient of friction for non-skid both dry and wet.

**Material:** 100% waste polyethylene plastic, recycled crumbled tire rubber, and colorant, molded under compression. (No polyurethane, no EPDM.)

**Size:** 2’ x 2.5’ x 1.875”. Tabs extend additional 1.5” per side on all sides/designed for 4’ or 5’ wide sidewalks.

**Weight:** 7.2 lbs per square foot (36 lbs. per paving tile).

**Surfaces and Color:**
- TerreGrip: Any style above with additional slip resistance feature.

**Under-base:** Patented channel design system to facilitate water drainage and accommodate tree root growth.

**Hardness:** Shore A 93.

**Shock Attenuation:** ASTM F355: Shock Absorbing Properties of Play Surfaces. G-max average: 489. Fall significantly less likely than on concrete to cause injury or broken bones. Product is not designed for playground and is not a playground material.

**Coefficient of Friction:**
- Terrewalks (standard style): ASTM C 1028: Dry=0.71; Wet=0.55 TerreGrip style: ASTM C 1028: Dry=0.74; Wet=0.62; F1679 (Variable Incidence Tribometer) Wet=.66 (Dry >.66); ASTM E 303 Dynamic Slip Resistance Using CTIOA Pendulum Method, Wet= 60 (Score 36 or higher indicates low slip potential) (OSHA guidelines require that all walking surfaces satisfy a 0.5 Static Coefficient of Friction rating; dry ratings exceed wet ratings. In new construction and alterations, ADA specifies that all walkways be stable, firm and slip resistant.)

**Taber-Abrasion:** ASTM D 3884: 1,000g weight load , H-22 (high abrasion) wheels at 12,000 cycles Material loss of 5.06% indicates high wear property.

**Proof Load H-20:** 40,000 pound proof load, 2.5 times safety factor over 16,000 pound requirement of H-20 or HS-20

**Compression Tolerance:**
- ASTM D 18035: Average time through 6” interconnected seam zone: 97.5” per hour. Indicates high permeability and water capture with no pooling.

**Flame Spread:** ASTM E 162: Index 131.18 at average temperature of 157.7 C (Surface flammability ANSI Z124.1 and Z124.1 allows Index of 450 or less). If exposed to open, constant fire, pavers are likely to smolder. Lit cigarettes, cigars or matches can burn on paver until they self-extinguish.

**Porosity:** DIN 18035: Average time through 6” interconnected seam zone: 97.5” per hour. Indicates high permeability and water capture with no pooling. Underbase channel system promotes water capture and immediate drainage.

**LEED Credit:** Qualifies for possible 7 LEED credits for recycled content, storm water drainage, heat island effect, innovative design, and regional materials.

**Sound:** TERREWALKS™ reduces sound of pedestrian or wheeled traffic.

**ADA Compliance:** Low vibration; concrete-to-TERREWALKS™ transition non-affected; high coefficient of friction both dry and wet; Shore A hardness supports all pedestrian and wheeled traffic, and transition on and off concrete or other hardscape. Product designed for 4 foot minimum width.

**Modularity:** TERREWALKS™ is a modular system. Pavers are interconnected with patented design and can be opened by professional contractors for tree root maintenance, utilities access, seismic adjustment, relocation, etc.

**Other:** Trench requirement 4” total with 2” permeable aggregate base material, 6” total with 4” base material for vehicle traffic. All components inert, non-toxic solids. No volatile organic compounds. No latex content.

All tests conducted and reported by accredited U.S. testing companies and performed under continuous direct supervision.

**SOLE SOURCE**
TERREWALKS™ is a sole source product, developed exclusively by Rubbersidewalks, Inc. for the public right of way and other landscaping applications, marketed and manufactured by Rubbersidewalks, Inc. TERREWALKS™ modular sidewalk system has been proven effective for use in public right of way applications (sidewalks, walkways, tree wells), and proven beneficial to the health and maintenance of urban trees. Rubbersidewalks, Inc. is a small, and woman-owned, California business.

You will find all our products listed on CADdetails.com, including CAD drawings, technical data and all information needed to specify our products in your plans. Feel free to contact us or visit our website for more information, and for a quote. Rubbersidewalks, Inc. is a GSA Contract Holder and Disaster Recovery for State & Local Government.
Rubber pavers help Golden State community slash sidewalk repair costs

Intruding tree roots often crack concrete sidewalks, and the city of Santa Monica, Calif., Street Maintenance Division has studied the results of that damage over the last 20 years. The division has projected the cost benefits of using Terrewalks™ sidewalk pavers next to ficus trees, which have the most intrusive and damaging root systems in the city’s community forest.

By replacing concrete walks with Terrewalks adjacent to some 3,500 ficus trees, the city is forecasting an 80 percent reduction in future sidewalk maintenance through the 20-year maintenance cycle of those ficus trees.

Terrewalks are made of 30 percent recycled passenger tires and 70 percent recycled plastic. The health and well-being of the city’s trees will be enhanced, city officials say, because sidewalk repairs that impact tree roots will be less frequent with the replacement pavers. In addition, fewer sidewalk repairs will mean less plastic, concrete, asphalt and tires will be flowing into landfills.

*edited from an article in Supply Chain News by Michael Keating, Government Product News, March 2009*