

### VA Central California Health Care System

#### ENSURING PUBLIC SAFETY ON THE CONSTRUCTION SITE

The VA Central California Health Care System, located in Fresno, California is a 57-bed acute care, general medical and surgical center. D-Square Construction LLC, a service disabled veteran owned small business located in Tucson AZ, was contracted to complete planned building renovations during active healthcare operations at the center. To ensure public safety during these construction operations, special attention was required in the areas of routine patient and medical staff access. A temporary covered walkway was proposed to function as the new point of ingress and egress for the general public around the active construction zone.

#### BETTER ALTERNATIVE TO PLYWOOD

Recognizing the need to install a walkaway that would remain smooth and flat for the year-long project, D-Square Construction contacted Matrax seeking an alternative to the originally proposed

plywood to overlay the existing sidewalks and compacted fill

areas measuring approximately 650 linear feet. The primary objective was to create a rigid, stable, and seamless walkway to support construction crews, patients, medical staff, and rolling medical equipment. The overlapping lip design of the Matrax panel system provided a significant advantage over plywood which degrades when exposed to the elements, warping and splintering and would create serious safety hazards. Custom cuts were handmade easily in the field with a circular saw. ADA compliant interlocking ramps were incorporated, further improving the safety and functionality of the walkaway, and creating an aesthetically pleasing finish.

