ISSUE
Landscape Architecture firm Krizan Associates was tasked with designing a fire access lane for a private residence in southern California. The home owners wanted a natural look and feel for the lane that would be regularly trafficked by maintenance vehicles and provide fire truck access to the site. John Krizan, principal of the design firm, was focused on the long-term viability of the ground cover: “I have worked with grass reinforcement products in the past, and have been disappointed with the vegetative cover after a year or two. I was looking for an improved product to reinforce the sloped access drive and provide enough rootzone growing media to allow for proper maintenance of the grass over-time.”

SOLUTION
Krizan proposed a reinforced grass access drive as a fluid component of the site to reflect the building and landscape architecture and provide functionality under the spatial limitations and subsequently selected BODPAVE®85 grass pavers due to its unique attributes and quality. The 2” deep, 100% recycled HDPE paver has 16 integrated 1.35” ground spikes that stabilize the grass paving system and prevent lateral drift under traffic on flat and sloped surfaces recommended up to 12%. The cell depth & ground spike create a 4” rootzone above the compacted base, allowing for an increased fibrous root structure to integrate across the perforated cell walls and support seed, sod, or plugged vegetation long-term. The deeper soil profile also increases the volume of stormwater runoff storage, retaining a .75-1” rain event over its given area in addition to any sub-surface storage engineered below.

BENEFITS
The ability for BodPave®85 to store a substantial amount of stormwater is a significant advantage in addressing site runoff. When water infiltrates into the profile, the integrated water retention cells preserve moisture, reduce irrigation demands and minimizing shock during dry periods. By maximizing growth potential of vegetated surfaces, BodPave®85 reduces ambient air temperature in parking areas, increasing comfort and decreasing Heat Island Effects of development. These attributes provided the necessary performance to create a multifunctional green space that blends flawlessly with the architect’s design and according to Mr. Krizan; it “has performed just excellent”!

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