**Data Incubator Project Proposal Alex Loosley**(August 15, 2014)

**Idea 1:** I’m interested in the role weather and other stressors play in parking tickets. Weather, especially rain and snow, are one of many factors that could cause a driver to park illegally in order to minimize travel time in the bad weather. It is unclear whether parking enforcement rates change due to weather. Other factors may include nearby road construction. Understanding the road ticket-weather and road ticket-construction relationship will help the city learn about parking inefficiency and how better to discourage parking offenders. For example, it may be necessary to

**Data Sources:** NYC parking ticket and road construction data, Chicago street closure permits, Chicago Parking ticket weather data

**Idea 2:**

**Data Sources:**

I propose to do a current day test of the broken windows theory, which states that physical disorder leads to increased crime rate. One way to test the correlation between the crime and physical disorder is to look at the likelihood that a particular kind of crime will occur near graffiti sites. Both the city of Chicago and city of New York data portals contain hundreds of thousands of data entries on graffiti in these two cities. These entries include graffiti location, date, and other attributes. The city of Chicago data portal also contains hundreds of thousands of data entries pertaining to crimes committed, including date, type of crime, location, and whether or not an arrest was made. I believe there is a similar database for NYC, or at the very least, there is an area averaged map of crime rates by type by neighbourhood and/or police precinct. Understanding the graffiti crime relationship has serious economic implications for both Chicago and NYC. [It can be estimated](http://www.graffitihurts.org/getfacts/cost.jsp) that NYC alone spends tens of millions of dollars removing graffiti each year but these expenditures may be prudent if the cost of not removing graffiti is a high crime rate.