



Skokie Police Headquarters

Skokie, Illinois

Client Space

In developing a new police station, the Village of Skokie also revitalized a run-down tract along one of the busiest corridors in its community. The new, high-tech headquarters incorporates abundant green spaces, natural light and comfortable amenities for officers, staff members and visitors to the facility.



The Training Room, which also serves as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), is used by large groups for training, staff meetings and community education.

In 2005, a review of the Village of Skokie's police headquarters found that the facility, in use since 1957, had neither the size nor the infrastructure to serve the community's law enforcement needs. As the police department grew more modern and technologically advanced, it became necessary to seek a new home for its 150-plus team.

A site was identified, complete with a run-down 136,000 square foot structure—a former soft drink warehouse. Through selective demolition and adaptive reuse, the new 80,000 square foot police headquarters was designed to incorporate elements of the original building. Much of the structural shell remains, for example, and former truck bays have been transformed into glass-encircled gardens, drawing the outdoors into the overall footprint.

Haworth was brought into the project for its ability to provide a complete solution—literally from the ground up—with contemporary, sustainable products that matched the building's forward-looking approach.



The shared access to storage, utilized both for actual storage and impromptu stand-up meetings, and lower panel heights encourage collaboration among the work teams.



Research shows employees with access to natural views and daylight, as well as personalization capabilities within their workstations, have higher job satisfaction and increased productivity.

An on-site 911 dispatch and emergency operations center, advanced evidence processing, virtual firearm training, and a multimedia training center make the most of the latest technology and workplace learning, and work areas were developed in tandem with department staff to ensure that they provided for workers' individual needs. The drive for a clean, modern aesthetic led to elegant solutions, such as file cabinet enclosures that also act as standing-height surfaces for impromptu meetings, furnishings that conceal voice and data cabling, and unique material selections to complement the rich wood tones used throughout.

Many decisions also furthered the Village's desire to achieve LEED® certification.

For example, the new station, bathed in natural daylight and open-air courtyards ensures that almost all spaces offer exterior views. Ergonomic seating, user-controlled task lighting and adaptable furnishings enhance occupant satisfaction

and productivity. Conditioned air distributed under the floor not only increases workers' comfort, but reduces energy use as well. And low VOC-emitting finishes, as well as recycled and recyclable materials, were used whenever possible.

By focusing on its impact on people and the environment, the Village of Skokie has created an oasis within a bustling industrial park that reflects the community's progressive worldview.

"As the Interiors consultant on the project, the various Haworth product solutions helped create a functional and contemporary atmosphere that met all of the sustainable goals. SPD is a true state of the art 21st century building."

— Dina Tsiolis, Principal EWS Consultants





"There is growing evidence that both active and passive contact with gardens provides psychological, emotional and social benefits. Cooper-Marcus and Barnes (1995) found that benefits of gardens included recovery from stress, having a place to escape to, and improved moods." — "Investing in People" Haworth Whitepaper, 2009

Customer Profile

The Village of Skokie is a culturally diverse and economically progressive community 16 miles northwest of Chicago. In the early 1900s, Skokie was connected to Chicago by rail, and began a long stretch of prosperity and growth. Today, the Village of Skokie is home to more than 66,000 residents and 2,400 businesses. The police department employs more than 150 sworn and civilian personnel to enforce the law and protect the community.

Haworth Product

Systems Furniture: Compose®, Patterns™
Access Floors: TecCrete®
Seating: X99®
Desks, Files, and Storage: X Series®, Masters Series®, Planes®
Lighting: BRAZO®

Architect & Design Firm:

EWS Consultants – Arlington Heights, Illinois
SBRL Architects – Deerfield, Illinois

General Contractor: Riley Construction – Lake Bluff, Illinois

Haworth Furniture Dealer: Business Office Systems– Carol Stream, Illinois

Haworth Flooring Contractor: Bravo Interiors– Chicago, Illinois

Photographer: Howard N. Kaplan – HNK Architectural Photography, Inc.



The evidence processing room is equipped with all tools necessary for the teams to study a case.



Haworth's integrated palette includes Compose, Enclose, Patterns, Planes, Reside, Beside, and Belong.

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