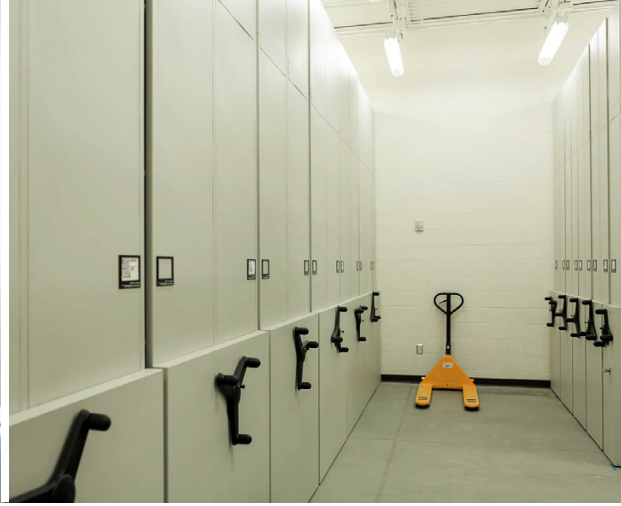
CASE STUDY:

PARKER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Parker, Colorado

Storage Solved®



Everything under one roof

"We probably have one of the only property rooms that has extra space because it is organized so well. I think we have one of the best evidence storage facilities not only in the state but in the country."

-Chris Peters,
Lieutenant, Parker Police Department

Parker, Colorado is a suburb in the southeastern Denver metro area and has seen a significant economic growth over the past 10 years. As the city continues to grow, so does the Parker Police Department, in staff as well as materials like evidence and equipment that they need on a day-to-day basis.

With a facility of only 15,000 square feet, the previous police department had no more room to grow and they began using offsite storage. Even with offsite facilities, Parker PD needed a more complete solution that would allow them to have all of their department functions under one roof.

Shelving and lockers are customized to maximize organization and efficiency

Planning for the new police department began by looking at other facilities and finding out what would provide optimal efficiency and organization within their space. Members from every department within Parker PD were able to work directly with the architects and designers to ensure that each department received exactly the storage solution they needed. With an increase of over 30,000 square feet, the new Parker PD building was designed to be not only open and inviting for the community but also environmentally friendly, incredibly efficient and organized.

Chris Peters, Lieutenant of the investigation department, works with the evidence department to monitor how effectively every piece is stored and cataloged. When he first came to Parker PD, the evidence room was very poorly organized and had no real system for cataloging or keeping track of it all.

While planning for the new Parker PD facility, he and a few other evidence technicians visited agencies like West Minister PD and state boards to learn how to better package, store and manage all of their evidence. The preparation for changing evidence processing and the change in facility was a big challenge but one that needed to happen.

A storage solution fit for future use

"The architect was very forgiving about changing the layout and design of the room in order to make it work for us," said Peters "I think that was key to making it a successful transition."

In order to maximize their space and efficiency, the architect suggested Spacesaver storage systems which are specifically designed to fit each department's needs. For the evidence room, each shelving unit was configured based on the sizes of evidence that would be stored on that particular shelf. Each box or package was measured for dimensions and Spacesaver was able to engineer each shelf to that size, so that there was no wasted space.

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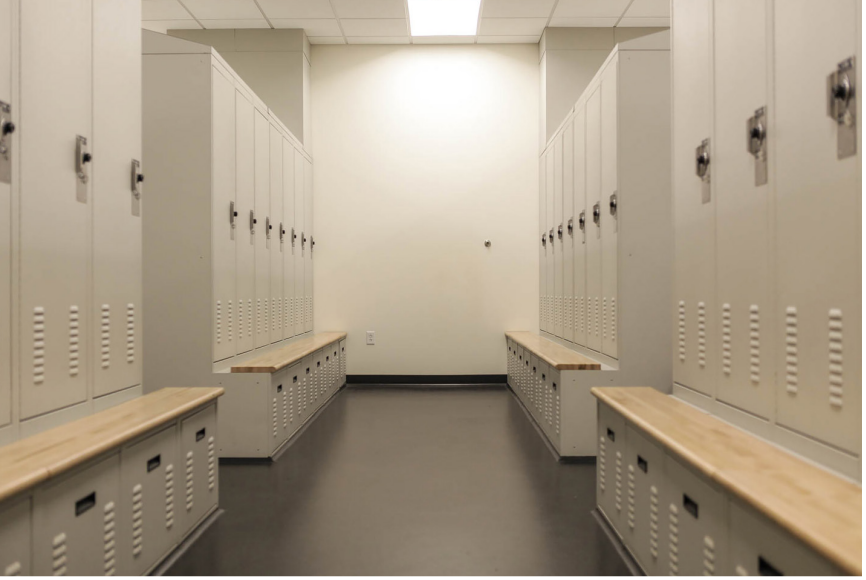

Reconfigurable lockers focus on personal and professional space

Another room within the Parker PD facility that got a major upgrade is the officers' locker rooms. Each officer at any police department carries a variety of gear that they need to keep in their locker for everyday use. Storing things like uniforms, gun belts, boots, and vests, they wanted to ensure that they had a locker that would be able to accommodate everything and then some. Ron Combs, the Captain for Parker PD, worked with the architect and Spacesaver to design the locker rooms.

"What we liked about the Spacesaver lockers was that they gave us a great opportunity to design a locker with the officers in mind."

-Ron Combs,
Captain, Parker Police Department

Each locker has plenty of hanging space for uniforms and street clothes, a separate drawer on the bottom that holds bulletproof vests in a flat surface with specially-designed vest tray so they can dry while being stored. There are also power outlets in each locker so officers can charge their cell phones or portable radios as well as mirrors and a compartment for personal items that is available to lock separately. The best part about the locker room might be that is doesn't smell like a locker room.

"We integrated the locker system into the building heating and cooling system," Combs said. "So that the air is constantly running through the lockers so that anything in the lockers can dry out."

Storage solutions helping serve those who serve the public

Everything that has been added or integrated into the new Parker PD building gives each department the ability to have the space and facilities they need to do their jobs and serve their community more efficiently. Most importantly they were able to go from storing material offsite because of the lack of space in an old facility to bringing everything together in one building.

"Working with our architect and designer and Spacesaver, we were able to design efficient storage solutions for evidence, gear storage, records." Combs said, "Every kind of storage need that we had, Spacesaver had a solution for us."

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