



"Prior to deploying Aerohive, when the Cooperative experienced a wireless problem, the other IT administrator or I would have to physically travel to the location experiencing issues, troubleshoot and either re-program onsite, or be forced to order another piece of equipment to fix the problem. Today, troubleshooting consists of opening our web browser, launching Aerohive's HiveManager Online, quickly assessing the problem, re-configuring, and we're good to go. Aerohive's wireless solution has not only improved our network, but also the way we do our work. We couldn't be happier and we look forward to continuing to grow our partnership with Aerohive."

— **Chris Frezza**  
Head of Systems  
Suburban Library Cooperative.

# Suburban Library Cooperative

## Suburban Library Cooperative Relies on Aerohive's Cloud-Managed Wi-Fi Solution to Keep Over Two Dozen Michigan Libraries Wirelessly Connected

### Customer Overview

The Suburban Library Cooperative is a network of 24 public libraries located across three counties in Michigan including Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties. These libraries have joined together to secure services, which can be performed more effectively and economically as a group. Established in 1978 under Michigan Public Act 89 of 1977, the Cooperative provides member libraries with several important services, ranging from automated circulation of library materials to administrative and computer services. The Suburban Library Cooperative also assists member libraries in a variety of ways in their efforts to better serve the public.

### Challenges

Like many state government agencies, the Suburban Library Cooperative lacks IT budget and staff, forcing the Cooperative to turn to state aid grants to receive funding for IT and other ongoing cooperative services. In the state of Michigan, state aid is awarded to libraries that effectively complete an annual report including granular details such as wireless statistics. Prior to deploying Aerohive, each library in the Suburban Library Cooperative was forced to manually collect these details by physically counting each individual device on the network. Moreover, with an extremely lean IT department of two, the Suburban Library Cooperative also lacked an efficient network management system, relying on a hodgepodge configuration of various consumer-grade wireless equipment including D-Link and Linksys devices that provided spotty coverage, at best. Given these needs, the Suburban Library Cooperative began its search for a cost-effective wireless solution that could efficiently support its growing infrastructure.

### Aerohive Solution

The Suburban Library Cooperative worked with 'The Library Network', a consortium of libraries in the state of Michigan, and InterWorks ([www.interworks.com](http://www.interworks.com)), an Aerohive integrator, to evaluate Cisco, Meraki and Aerohive Networks. Ultimately, Aerohive was chosen for its flexible, scalable and cost-effective controller-less solution that also provided the IT department with centralized management, policy control, and complete visibility into the network. Currently, the Suburban Library Cooperative is utilizing [Aerohive's HiveManager Online Network Management system](#), and has also deployed 55 Aerohive AP121 and AP141 access points across 22 libraries.

### Why Aerohive was Selected

- Aerohive's cloud-enabled networking and controller-less architecture made the deployment process quick and easy – from unboxing to up and running within minutes. As a result, the Suburban Library Cooperative was able to deploy access points across 22 libraries in a matter of days.
- With Aerohive's technology, the Suburban Library Cooperative now has the ability to run a daily report detailing granular wireless statistics including the number of unique devices logged on to the system and application usage, among others. This information is critical for completing the annual state aid report required for the Suburban Library Cooperative to receive the grant money it needs to continue operating.
- With the Aerohive system in place, the Suburban Public Library can now easily manage bandwidth by limiting guest access to certain bandwidth-hogging applications and distribute more bandwidth to locations proving to have higher density web traffic.
- Aerohive's HiveManager Online provides the Suburban Library Cooperative with real-time visibility and information to simplify troubleshooting across distributed environments. With HiveManager Online, the Suburban Library Cooperative has the ability to centrally manage the network and easily access the system from anywhere, anytime.
- Aerohive offered the Suburban Library Cooperative the most comprehensive, cost effective, flexible cloud networking solution compared to all of the other considered vendors including Cisco Meraki.

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