

CONTENT SPOTLIGHT

# THE PROOF IS IN THE PILOT

Pilot projects are a valuable way for cities to gain understanding of network infrastructure requirements.

Even though small trials are sometimes dismissed because of their size, these pilots still offer lessons about what works and what doesn't in a real-world environment.

And cities can learn from those lessons before making more significant investments.

In Dallas, the Dallas Innovation Alliance (DIA) installed a Living Lab in the city's West End district. Filled with sensors and connected assets like streetlights and kiosks, the Living Lab does three important things. It proves the value of connectivity through applications like wayfinding and smart lighting. It confirms the need for fiber backhaul across the city in the case of larger-scale deployments. And it helps local leaders determine what aesthetic requirements they should set for small cell agreements.

Next up for Dallas? The city aims to upgrade its communications infrastructure in support of larger smart city projects.

## FURTHER RESOURCES

[Smart City Connectivity Playbook](#)

[DIA Living Lab, Phase One](#)

[DIA Showcase Video](#)

