

## CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY



# City of Arlington

### The Opportunity

Incorporated in 1884, the City of Arlington, Texas, known as “The American Dream City,” is located at the heart of the Dallas/Fort Worth/Arlington metroplex and home to more than 365,000 residents. In an effort to reduce utility spending and become a more sustainable city, Arlington leaders worked to maximize the efficiency of existing transportation systems, reduce energy and maintenance costs, and improve streetlight reliability by converting City-owned streetlights to LED.

### The Partnership

**Phase I:** In 2014, the City of Arlington launched a comprehensive energy program in partnership with OPTERRA Energy Services focused on modernizing its streetlights and municipal facilities. The first phase prioritized upgrading approximately 10,500 streetlights along major roadways, significantly reducing a major source of citywide electricity use. This effort cut streetlight energy consumption by roughly 45 percent while extending fixture life, lowering maintenance costs, and simplifying operations through standardized equipment and



### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Expected to achieve \$18MM in energy savings over 15 years
- Worked during off-hours to lower impact on City employees
- Implemented energy efficiency upgrades for more than 30 buildings



### SOLUTIONS

#### Phase I

- Installed 11,223 LED streetlights
- Installed seven-pin receptacles with the LED streetlights for future smart city advancement
- Modernized HVAC control system
- Mechanical upgrades to boilers, chillers, and cooling towers
- Domestic water retrofits and new flush valves

#### Phase II

- LED retrofits including: 320 ornamental lights, 403 streetlights, and 920 interior/exterior lights
- Installed new LED high-mast fixtures
- Installed new HVAC rooftop units

improved tracking. The project delivered substantial energy and cost savings, improved lighting quality and reliability, and established a foundation for future smart infrastructure, while also bundling energy efficiency performance upgrades across 21 City facilities as part of the investment plan.

**Phase II:** Building on the rapid success of Phase I, the City completed a second phase with OPTERRA in six months that expanded energy improvements to the Entertainment District, on Interstate overpasses, along several state highways, and at

several municipal buildings. This phase enhanced public spaces with upgraded decorative and roadway lighting, improved HVAC comfort and efficiency in City buildings, and delivered higher-quality interior and exterior illumination for occupants and visitors. Using a performance contracting model, the City avoided upfront costs, with savings from earlier improvements helping fund subsequent work. OPTERRA's guaranteed energy savings additionally ensures long-term value while extending the program's operational, financial, and community-wide benefits.

## Supporting People

Demonstrating a commitment to sustainability and serving as a model for other municipalities in the region, Arlington is the first major city in the Southwest to retrofit their streetlights with LEDs which enhance pedestrian and driver safety and help redirect utility budgets to support other initiatives that improve the quality of life of Arlingtonians.



## Saving Money

As a result of both program phases, the City is projected to generate savings of more than \$18 million over 15 years and the new LED streetlights save the City \$15,000 in maintenance costs annually.

## Protecting the Environment

The full program decreases the City's energy use by more than 2.5 million kilowatt hours annually and reduces water consumption by more than 3,500,000 gallons every year – placing the City of Arlington at the forefront of leading technology and sustainability initiatives in Texas.

