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**Subject:** 7 trends for forward-thinking cities / Seattle's clever Wi-Fi pilot / Paris: City of LEDs

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## WELCOME TO SMART CITIES NOW

*Updates on smart city progress around the globe*

### NEWS & TRENDS

**7 trends driving forward-thinking cities:** A new IBM report captures seven rapidly emerging trends that are prompting forward-thinking cities to adapt the way they serve their citizens. Learn about the trends and steal smart ideas from a dozen showcase cities. [MORE >>](#)

**20 years to transform LA:** Los Angeles launched an ambitious sustainability plan that zeroes in on economic and equality issues. The "pLAn" calls for less reliance on imported water, improved air quality and much lower greenhouse gas emissions. See how the mayor intends to make it all happen. [MORE >>](#)

**Your city's path to resilience:** After years of pilots and demos and tests, the microgrid sector is finally beginning to accelerate. Case in point is what may be the world's most advanced microgrid project developed by the Texas-based electric utility Oncor with S&C Electric and Schneider. Click for details, including an onsite video. [MORE >>](#)

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### PILOTS & PROJECTS

**Why Seattle loves TV static:** Remember the old days when you found only annoying static on certain TV channels? Well, Seattle and Microsoft are putting that unused broadcast spectrum to work in a pilot project that will vastly improve Internet performance for Seattle Center visitors -- and may eventually bring better technology access to under-served regions. [MORE >>](#)

**City of Lights becomes City of LEDs:** Smart street lights are emerging as a favorite on-ramp to smart cities. So it may be time to start shopping around like Paris did. Some of the city's most iconic neighborhoods will soon sport a citywide canopy network for street and traffic lights deployed by Silver Spring Networks. Get details. [MORE >>](#)

**Protecting the grid... with plants?** Floods and severe storms wreak havoc with electric grids. China has a different problem -- sand. Severe sandstorms send the gritty stuff from Inner Mongolia to a region where it threatens the transmission network that supplies Beijing with electricity. Learn about the innovative solution ABB came up with to help slow the encroachment. [MORE >>](#)

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4.23: Smart City Startups 2015 -  
- Miami

4.26: Smart Cities Readiness

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