



Keeping D.C. residents connected.

Wireless service has become an increasingly important part of our lives. Expanding wireless coverage with small cells ensures that District residents have the connectivity they need to live their daily lives, making it easier to find information about jobs, complete schoolwork and access healthcare and public resources.

Enhancing connectivity in D.C.

Crown Castle is expanding Washington, D.C.'s existing wireless infrastructure by deploying a small cell network of low-powered antennas called "nodes" that are located on structures like streetlights and utility poles. Small cells are essential to next-generation networks, such as 5G, which will enable greater mobile connectivity and new innovations, including autonomous vehicles and citywide data sharing. Crown Castle is building in all eight wards to increase wireless coverage and capacity for residents, businesses and visitors.

What are small cells?

Small cells help deliver fast, reliable wireless connectivity. They complement existing wireless infrastructure, such as towers and rooftop antennas, to add much-needed capacity in highly populated areas. Also, because they're often installed on right-of-way infrastructure, small cells blend into their surroundings and help preserve the aesthetics of their environment.

Benefits of connectivity.

Education

A recent survey¹ found that 27% of D.C. families did not have internet access to participate in online learning. Mobile connectivity is critical, especially for those families who rely on their smartphones to access educational resources. With speeds up to 100 times faster and the ability to handle 100 times the number of devices, 5G will improve educational access for students who rely on their mobile devices to access educational resources.

Healthcare

Enhanced connectivity increases access to health services and offers a host of innovative opportunities for patients and healthcare providers. Connectivity means greater use of connected devices to monitor vitals; access to the best providers in the world regardless of your location; and access to telemedicine, which reduces healthcare costs.

Economic impact

The telecommunications industry will invest billions of dollars in upgrading wireless infrastructure in communities across the country, which will create millions of jobs and lead to a faster growing economy. For example, in D.C., it's estimated that building the network to support 5G will generate over \$1 billion in GDP growth, and create over 6,500 jobs in the next five years.²

Digital divide

Today's mobile revolution has expanded critical connectivity capabilities to underserved communities via their smartphones. This is particularly important for those who disproportionately rely on their smartphones for access to information and resources. Improved connectivity helps users apply for jobs, find information about health conditions, do homework and access government services.

Working with the community.

At Crown Castle, we do more than just connect communities with our infrastructure; we connect with our communities. Our **Connected by Good** program is one way we give and volunteer in the communities where we live and work. With nearly 100 offices nationwide, we are committed to giving back—to improve public spaces where people connect, promote public safety and advance access to education and technology.



Making a difference in D.C.

URBAN ED

A job training partnership with Urban Ed to upskill diverse talent for tech careers with family-sustaining wages. Crown Castle funding enabled Urban Ed to increase enrollment by more than 20%.

LGBT TECH

Crown Castle supported LGBT Tech's PowerOn program, which empowers homeless and vulnerable LGBTQ individuals by providing devices such as cell phones, tablets and computers.

DC EDUCATION EQUITY FUND

Crown Castle contributed to Mayor Bowser's DC Education Equity Fund in response to Covid-19 to fund the purchase of laptops and hotspots for public school students.

To learn more, please visit www.crowncastle.com/communities/washington-dc or contact washingtondc@crowncastle.com.

1. <https://www.npr.org/local/305/2020/09/09/911083384/free-internet-is-coming-to-25-000-low-income-d-c-households>
2. <https://www.ctia.org/5g/print?state=DC>