

Economic vitality is the 'key to a smart city'

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James Brainard, Mayor of City of Carmel, Indiana, US, says the only way to transform a city into a smart city is to make it a place for everyone to prosper in a clean and green environment.

Speaking on the sidelines of an event on Smart Cities & Sustainability, hosted by Foundation for Futuristic Cities, he said that good schools, a clean and safe environment and space for people to walk to work, all make for a smart city.

Admitting that it is challenging to build such an environment, he said large Indian cities "need to take up one neighbourhood at a time and work on developing it into a smart place."

It took him nearly two decades to build Carmel with an investment of over \$700 million through public-private participation model.

Karuna Gopal, President of Foundation for Futuristic Cities, said these are lessons for India to learn as it takes up smart city projects.



Mayor James Brainard of the City of Carmel, Indiana (US), with Karuna Gopal President, Foundation of Futuristic Cities, in Hyderabad **G RAMAKRISHNA**