



Maroochydhore City Centre unveils an Australian first

One of the great advantages of building the new Maroochydhore City Centre on a greenfield site is that we are able to do things a little differently – and sometimes a lot differently.

A case in the point is the installation of Australia's first automated underground waste collection system, which was announced by Mayor Mark Jamieson earlier this month.

The concept had been considered for the new CBD for some time and I'm delighted that a contract has now been signed with the Swedish-based Envac company and I can now discuss the details with you all.

In the new city centre, the wheelie bin that most of us put out for collection each week will be obsolete and the amount of time garbage trucks spend collecting waste will be slashed.

Instead, refuse will be transported from commercial buildings and apartments at 70kmh through a 6.5km system of underground vacuum pipes located beneath the city centre.

Each building in the new CBD will include up to three waste inlets – for organic, recyclable and general waste. Waste dropped into each inlet will be stored in a sealed compartment below ground until the vacuum pump is activated at the central waste facility, usually twice each day.

The vacuum system will then consecutively collect each type of waste, transporting the waste through a system of tunnels to the central facility, where they will be stored for weekly collection by Sunshine Coast Council's refuse contractor.

While the idea is simple, the cost of installing the pipe network into an existing CBD is prohibitively

high – which is why no Australian city centre had adopted this technology before us.

Fortunately, because the expanded Maroochydhore CBD is being built virtually from scratch, the costs are lower and the business case clearly adds up.

It's a great first for the Sunshine Coast and the city centre.

The waste system is by no means the only way in which Maroochydhore CBD is breaking new ground and I will keep you informed as this exciting project continues.

If you have any questions or queries in the meantime, please don't hesitate to get in touch on (07) 5452 7274 or email admin@suncentralmaroochydhore.com.au.

John Knaggs
Chief Executive Officer

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