

The buzz is building as CBD takes shape

The outline of the Sunshine Coast's future CBD is now clearly taking shape with bulk earthworks on the first stage of the project nearing completion.

It's exciting to see the plan for the new Maroochydore City Centre begin to become a reality as preliminary construction of a striking new waterway continues and the foundation for new roads emerges on the site.

But they are not the only things building around the project – the buzz is building too.

Earlier this month I spoke at the Local Government Association of Queensland's inaugural 'Future Cities Summit' in Brisbane, giving civic and business leaders from across the state an insight into how our new CBD was evolving and the significant benefits for the region.

There is widespread recognition that the Maroochydore City Centre development is one of the most transformative and innovative urban projects now underway in Queensland.

Deputy Premier and Infrastructure Minister Jackie Trad acknowledged the importance of the CBD to the future of the Sunshine Coast, agreeing that Mayor Mark Jamieson has every reason to be optimistic about Maroochydore's future.

Their confidence is not misplaced. The city we are building will be both dynamic and forward-thinking.

As you may recall, last month I announced that Zach Johnson – the driving force behind Ocean Street's innovative Spark Bureau – will be the CBD's Entrepreneur-in-Residence, helping us attract and support start-ups and foster a spirit of entrepreneurship in the new city centre.

Since then the State Government has unveiled its own Chief Entrepreneur, Mark Sowerby of Blue Sky Alternative Investments, to energise Queensland's entire start-up culture.

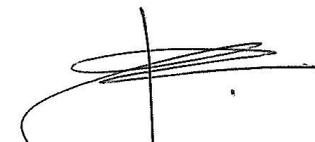
SunCentral is also in step with Prime Minister Malcom Turnbull's vision for '30-minute cities', with homes, work, schools and lifestyle services all within easy reach of one another.

It's reassuring to know our thinking is consistent with the vision being outlined by our political leaders, as well as urban planners and business leaders.

Back at ground level here in Maroochydore, a crucial task is now underway. Energex engineers have started realigning a high voltage electrical powerline which traverses the site.

The work is essential before major civil works commence. I'll keep you posted on this task, as well as all the other progress being made by the SunCentral team, in my next newsletter.

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@suncentralmaroochydore.com.au.



John Knaggs
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