

Business shares bold vision for Maroochydore CBD

The momentum behind Maroochydore's new CBD is building rapidly, with major commercial and public sector institutions unveiling plans to join the city centre.

Leading the way is John Holland Group, a global property development and infrastructure giant that has been delivering significant projects across Australia, New Zealand and South-East Asia for decades.

The company has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with SunCentral, entering into exclusive negotiations over the development of five key blocks in the commercial heart of the new Maroochydore CBD.

Sunshine Coast Regional Council and the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) have also signed the memorandum, publicly confirming their intention to have a presence in the city centre.

Council's plan to build a new headquarters was revealed earlier this year but the university's ambitions for the Maroochydore CBD were a welcome surprise to those attending the Mayor's special on-site announcement on 4 August.

USC is one of the fastest-growing universities in Australia and it intends to have teaching facilities and student accommodation in the new CBD.

Detailed negotiations between all four parties are continuing but there is no doubt the Memorandum of Understanding is an important milestone for the city centre and a huge vote of confidence in the future of the entire region.

The proposal from John Holland Group would have an end value of more than \$200 million and help attract new employers to the CBD.

The company's CEO, Joe Barr, said it was "very clear the Sunshine Coast is on the move and has an incredibly bright future".

That's the same message SunCentral has been hearing loud and clear from a range of industry sectors since we took the first commercial precincts to market last year. Further proof of this positivity has come from the hotel industry.

Plans for the CBD include at least one major business hotel catering for the expected growth in business travellers to the region, particularly in the wake of the Sunshine Coast Airport's new runway opening in late 2020, allowing direct flights from Asia and the Pacific.

SunCentral has been in discussions with a number of leading hotel groups interested in this opportunity and we hope to announce details about the first contract to build and operate a business hotel in the new city centre before the end of the year.

I look forward to sharing that piece of good news with you, and more besides, as the vision for the Maroochydore CBD becomes a reality.

There is more information about the project at Maroochydore-city.com.au and Facebook.com/ thebrightcity and, as always, you are welcome to contact the team on 5452 7274 or email questions to admin@suncentralmaroochydore.com.au.

Kind regards,

John Knaggs Chief Executive Officer August 2017

