

On track to better service

I would like to respond to the letter by Confused of the Gold Coast (*mX*, January 22) regarding the Robina to Varsity Lakes rail extension project.

The Varsity Lakes train station will be a four-minute journey from Robina. It will be the design focal point of an emerging residential, retail and business area known as Varsity Station Village (www.varsitystationvillage.qld.gov.au).

Future residents will be encouraged to use the Gold Coast rail line for their travel needs.

The next stations south will be built at Tallebudgera, Elanora, Tugun and Gold Coast airport by 2026.

The construction of the new Varsity Lakes station highlights the emergence of the Gold Coast as a metropolitan city with the need for its own public transport network.

The Robina to Varsity Lakes rail extension pro-

Letter of the day



ject will deliver 4.1km of twin electrified tracks, a 300m tunnel under East-hill Drive at Robina, three road overpasses, and the new station at Varsity Lakes.

The new station will include 300 commuter car park spaces, a drop-off area, six bus bays and a taxi rank.

Once the tracks are in service by 2010, it's expected the residents of Varsity Lakes will be able to reach Brisbane's Central station in 75 minutes and the international airport in just over 90 minutes.

— Tim Ripper, acting SEQIPRAIL program director