

Rail village on track for 2010 completion

By PETER BARNES

WORK has started on a master plan for the multimillion-dollar Varsity Station Village project.

While trucks continue removing 550,000 cu m of builders' waste from the site – a process expected to take until mid-year – planning experts are sifting through submissions from the public and community groups about the transport-oriented residential development.

Input was also sought from planning, design and engineering

companies.

A Queensland Transport spokeswoman said the public could still have its say on the dedicated website www.varsitystationvillage.qld.gov.au.

"A draft master plan is due be released later this year, and the community will have more opportunity to provide input at that time," she said.

The 14ha project, based at the planned Varsity Lakes railway station, is expected to include townhouses and apartments and will also provide for community,

business and commercial development, including retail outlets.

More than 100 people have registered to be on the project database or given early feedback about the project and 80 people attended displays held last year.

Members of the project team are continuing to arrange meetings with community groups, such as the Robina Chamber of Commerce.

The project was announced in July last year, when \$23.7 million was allocated for planning and siteworks.

The money will pay to underground the powerlines that run next to the site, along Scottsdale Drive.

The Varsity Lakes station project, which is due for completion in 2010, is being built by the TrackStar Alliance, which is constructing the rail line between Robina and Varsity Lakes and access roads.

Additional siteworks, such as the levelling of land and provision of reticulated services, will take place once the master plan is finalised.



RAILWAY TOWN

... an artist's impression of the Varsity Station Urban Village hub.