

Trains on the doorstep for residents



HANDY ... there are plans for a new railway shopping precinct in Varsity Lakes, and the plans are being circulated to residents.

Village plan for Varsity station

DETAILS of a 'ground-breaking, transit-oriented community' surrounding the planned Varsity Lakes train station are arriving in local letterboxes.

The newsletters detail how Varsity Station Village will be integrated into the new station, due for completion in 2010.

Transport Minister John Mickel said the village would cover 14ha and be the first of its type in Queensland.

It will be built on land bought

By PETER BARNES

last year by Queensland Transport next to the future rail station site.

Mr Mickel said it would be a place where the community lived, worked and played around the new transit hub.

The land had been earmarked for industrial activities, but would become an urban village integrating housing, shops and office buildings.

There would also be community meeting spaces and parkland.

"The train line extension from Robina to Varsity Lakes has

started and the new Varsity Station Village design will ensure everyone has easy access to the station," he said.

Preliminary rail corridor earthworks have begun next to the village site.

Locals will be able to comment on preliminary planning and have their opinions considered during development of a draft master plan, due for release for further public comment in the middle of next year.

Visit the Varsity Station Village website at www.varsitystationvillage.qld.gov.au.