

Developer bucking size trend

Move to build fewer homes



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A COAST builder is opting for bigger homes in fewer numbers as work begins on a \$170 million residential development.

Altum Constructions construction director Rob McCready said his company had approval to build 199 townhouses and apartments on the last major undeveloped block in the Noosa Springs master-planned community.

But he wants to trim that back to 167, with more three-bedroom apartments than one and two-bedroom options.

"That is rare but it is very consistent with market feedback we are getting," Mr McCready said.

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say they are disappointed with size.”

His company bought the five-hectare parcel of land on Resort Dr two years ago.

Groundworks have started and construction of a display apartment has also begun.

Mr McCready said some of the Parkridge Noosa development's four-bedroom penthouses would have "spectacular" views over Lake Weyba.



BIGGER IS BETTER: Altum Constructions construction director Rob McCready on site at the last major stage of Noosa Springs development, overlooking Lake Weyba. PHOTO: JOHN MCCUTCHEON

"Despite the fact we haven't started marketing we have had a lot of interest from locals in the area."

Mr McCready said about two-thirds of that interest had come from people of the baby boomer generation but there were also some young and middle-aged families inquiring.

He said ideally about 75% of apartments would be bought by owner/occupiers and the rest would be sold to

investors for short-term letting.

A reception area will be built to manage holiday bookings as well as a pool, bar, restaurant and gym.

Mr McCready said prices would start at \$390,000 for one-bedroom apartments and range up to more than \$2 million for premium penthouses.

He expected marketing of the properties would start at the end of this month.



The last stage of Noosa Springs development overlooking Lake Weyba. PHOTO: JOHN MCCUTCHEON



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Rooftop bar, restaurants, offices opening at Kon-Tiki

A BUSINESS boom is under way just metres from the site of the future new Maroochydore CBD with a swathe of businesses about to open.

Pratt Property's Kon-Tiki development, which opened in March, is only weeks from major progress, with fit-outs being finalised on a number of retail and office spaces.

A massive new medical centre with emergency care space, restaurants, modern pub and rooftop bar are among the new businesses set to shape the face of the dual-tower, five-storey development.

On the ground floor new, authentic Vietnamese restaurant, Nguyen Brothers, is about 4-5 weeks from opening, with the owners set to increase their portfolio of two Sydney restaurants with the Maroochydore site.

Negotiations are also being finalised on a new pub and rooftop bar space as well as a possible brewery in a huge 558sq m space on the ground floor of Tower 2.

A large kitchen will be at the rear and a "modern pub" will be the theme of the space, which is hoped to cater to workers in the office spaces above, as well as the public, with after work drinks, long lunches and business meetings all hoped to be done in the new venue, similar to Mooloolaba's 'La Balsa' building.



BOOM: A swathe of new businesses are about to open in the new Kon-Tiki development. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

That is expected to take a few months to open, once negotiations are complete.

The pub owners are also set to operate a rooftop bar, with roofing being fitted to that space at present.

Kon-Tiki centre manager Steph Peters said vegan and vegetarian restaurant Two Point Oh was also about 4-5 weeks from opening, with frontage to Plaza Pde.

Recruitment began in late-August for the 96sq m restaurant, which is being fitted out at present.

A massive 345sq m private medical centre is also near completion, with September 18 circled as a planned opening date.

Doctors are being recruited at present and equipment brought in, with fit-out essentially finished on the practice which will have eight consultation

rooms, pathology, radiology and a large emergency care space to the rear.

The practice is owned by locals and it will be their first medical centre venture.

Office space was being snapped up and retail spaces were being filled.

Ms Peters said inquiry had been "really good" since March, and multiple State Government departments had inquired about securing entire floors of the office space available.

A mix of tenants are already operating, including technology and energy companies, sporting organisations and Hunts Fitness, which had been in Tower 1 about seven months.

Adrian Hunter, owner of the gym, said they were already at about half-capacity of its capped 300 memberships.