



GE Australia State Headquarters under construction (above) and artist impression of the building (right) to open later this year.

MORE CRANES, MORE GAINS

The number of cranes filling the Greater Springfield skyline is a good indicator of the healthy economic growth in the emerging city.

In May, a new crane appeared above the University of Southern Queensland's campus in the Springfield Central CBD, as the university expands its facilities.

Mirvac's nearby expansion of the Orion Springfield Central shopping and retail precinct is about to grow its own set of cranes.

Meanwhile Kane Constructions is employing a massive lifter to build GE Australia's state-of-the-art Queensland headquarters. The five-storey building will open later this year.

"One of the major differences with cranes here in Greater Springfield is that they are engaged in building commercial space rather than just domestic high-rise," said Springfield Land Corporation managing director Raynuha Sinnathamby.

"That's because we are doing a pretty good job of growing jobs here as well as housing."

Over the next two months, Mater Health Services will also contribute to the crane index as Stage 1 of its private hospital takes shape in Health City, a world-class health and wellness precinct.

MORE RAIL PARKING

Springfield Central Station has opened a further 400 car parking spaces in response to commuter demand.

Nearly 300,000 passengers travelled on the Greater Springfield rail line in its first six months of operation.

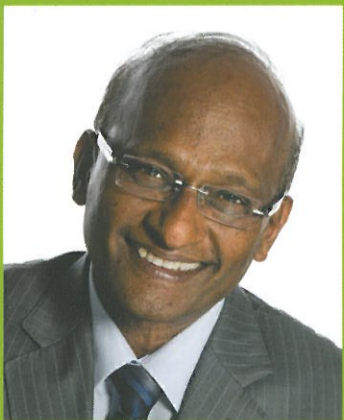
The rise in commuter traffic is having positive effects in the region. Local businesses report increased customers. Meanwhile enrolments have increased at the city's 10 schools and other education facilities.



The new stations are good for commuters and business.

CHAIRMAN'S THOUGHTS

I was delighted to learn that nearly 44 per cent of the Greater Springfield population of 26,000 is now engaged in some form of formal learning. Education is the currency of the future and is one of the fundamental pillars that this emerging city has been founded upon.



Maha Sinnathamby

Enrolments this year are up again by nearly 1000 across ten private and public schools as well as at the TAFE College and Greater Springfield education facilities. The University of Southern Queensland campus also continues to attract more and more students across a range of courses. It's expanding rapidly to accommodate this increased interest in living and learning. We expect many of these scholars to eventually find full-time employment in Greater Springfield, where at last count there were 12,000 direct and indirect jobs already created.