

Rail reality lifts Springfield demand, says Maha Sinnathamby

- by: *Chris Herde* From: [The Courier-Mail](#) July 27, 2012 8:17AM



GROWTH: Maha Sinnathamby at his office at Springfield Lakes. PIC: Mark Cranitch

FOR the Springfield Land Corporation it has always been a case of if you build it they will come.

And with stage 2 of the \$1.2 billion Darra to Springfield rail line well under construction and due to finish next year, they are coming.

The station will be the focus of a \$60 million transport hub for the 390ha Springfield CBD.

SLC chairman Maha Sinnathamby believes the completion of Springfield Central Station is a commercial property "game changer" for the 20-year-old masterplanned community.

"Inquiry has increased by 40 to 45 per cent since the train line was announced in late 2011," he said. "You can't stop the horse, the gates are open and the horse has bolted. It's an unstoppable force."

Springfield is already home to companies such as New Hope Coal, Dalkia, British Gas, Woolworths and Suncorp and some of the new deals to be announced over the next few months include:

- * A major box service trade retail business on 17,500sq m.
- * A Fortune 500 company to take up 10,500sq h in a new seven-storey building.
- * A major hospital announcement.

Already there has been up to 50,000sq m of retail construction announced including the 30,000sq m stage 2 of the Orion Shopping Centre.

SLC executive general manager planning and infrastructure Russell Luhrs said Springfield's original plans were for 30,000 workers but that could increase to 45,000.

"A lot of people in the past have said they understand Springfield but come and see us when the public transport system is addressed," he said.

"But since train line was announced there has been a significant uplift in inquiry."

Mr Luhrs said companies can either buy their own land or have design and construct options.

"What we can offer is the capacity to access a purpose-built building that accommodates all of their interests and needs in terms of technology, access to amenity for their staff and access to a quality public transport system," Mr Luhrs said.