

# Sunland Group

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Soaring interstate demand prompts revised vision for The Lanes Retail Village**

Strong demand from interstate operators has inspired Sunland Group to almost double the size of the open-air retail precinct planned for its master planned community The Lakes at Mermaid Waters.

The developer has lodged a revised Development Application with Gold Coast City Council seeking approval for The Lanes Retail Village to feature more than 12,500sqm of retail laneways interwoven with a fresh food market hall, cafes, restaurants, medical centre, office space, entertainment and a lakeside community Green.

The proposal replaces a Development Application lodged last September for a 7,000sqm precinct.

The additional commercial space will be used to expand on the precinct's health and retail offerings as well as meet an increase in demand for wellbeing, leisure-entertainment, and unique office space.

Designed by Queensland architectural firm Blight Rayner in collaboration with Sunland Group's award-winning design team, The Lanes Retail Village will form the communal heart of The Lakes, 42 hectares of prime land on the corner of Hooker Boulevard and Southport-Burleigh Road (Bermuda St), Mermaid Waters.

Sunland Group Managing Director Sahba Abedian said strong interest from operators seeking a boutique commercial and retail offering on the Gold Coast had made us reconsider the vision for the precinct.

"The incredible location and unique architecture of The Lanes Retail Village has struck a chord with the retail and commercial community," he said.

"In particular, we have seen a significant increase in enquiries from Brisbane based as well as interstate operators who are motivated to relocate or expand their businesses to the Gold Coast on the back of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"At a time of much uncertainty, the fact we are able to market a vibrant open-air precinct in a city that remains open for business is proving attractive to many operators."

The precinct will embrace a village retail aesthetic, with intricate brickwork and captivating archways combining with cascading greenery, urban laneways and open spaces to create an atmosphere worthy of the Gold Coast's wonderful climate.

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A medical centre, pharmacy and allied health services will be mainstays of the health and wellbeing precinct, while a fresh food market hall inspired by the bustling food markets of Europe and boasting a 7m-high ceiling will incorporate fresh produce, specialty foods, and local artisans.

At the centre of The Lanes Retail Village will be the 3,500sqm lakeside Green that has been designed as a community gathering space and will host a range of seasonal events, markets and activities.

Mr Abedian said The Lanes Retail Village would be popular with The Lakes' 3000-plus future residents and the wider Gold Coast region.

"With nearly 100,000 cars passing the site daily and 200,000 people living within a 10-minute drive, The Lakes will be a unique and highly visible community and we have a rare opportunity to create a vibrant leisure-retail destination with a strong community focus."

The Lanes Retail Village will complement the neighbouring The Lanes Residences – East Village, which features two mid-rise residential buildings that are now complete and welcomed their first residents last month.

Construction has already commenced on the next stage of The Lanes Residences – a mirror image of Stage One to be known as West Village – with completion expected in the first half of 2023.

For more information on The Lanes Retail Village, visit [sunlandgroup.com.au](http://sunlandgroup.com.au) or call Julian Musial on 1800 054 610.

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