Thursday, 19 November 2015

**Westfield Tuggerah expansion gets green light**

The Department of Planning and Environment today announced the approval of new planning rules paving the way for the expansion of Westfield Tuggerah to create more local jobs and build new specialty stores.

A spokesperson for the Department said the approval would create more jobs on the Central Coast and give locals access to more shops and services in this already thriving commercial area.

“Westfield Tuggerah is already one of the largest shopping centres on the Central Coast employing thousands of locals, as well as attracting customers from around the region,” the spokesperson said.

“More than 34,000 people have to travel to outside the region every day for work – so this is another way we can help create local jobs to cut the commute time for people on the Central Coast.

“The plans released today lock-in the centre’s place as a jobs generator, with more than 30,000 square metres of shops and space for a bulky retailer like a Masters outlet planned to give locals more jobs opportunities.

“We’ve also made sure there will be ample space for parking, to help locals get to work or do the groceries at their leisure.”

The spokesperson said now that the planning rules have been amended, any additional development would be up to Wyong Council to assess.

“The Department of Planning and Environment has worked with Wyong Council to make sure this proposal responds to on any local issues, while also recognising the great potential an expansion like this will bring to the Central Coast,” the spokesperson said.

“With the approval, development applications can be lodged with Wyong Council reflecting the changes to the planning rules, to further progress economic opportunities for the region.” The amended planning rules support feedback from the Central Coast Discussion Paper including

- more local jobs close to transport
- prioritising life style and reducing the time it takes to get to work
- an increase in shops and services so locals can shop on the Central Coast

The proposed amendment to the Wyong Local Environmental Plan was exhibited in late 2014 for public feedback and has now been finalised.

For more information visit www.leptracking.planning.nsw.gov.au/

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