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Buyers flock as suburb booms

SCHOFIELD'S IS UNDERGOING A BIG TRANSFORMATION AS NEW RESIDENTIAL ESTATES ATTRACT FAMILIES AND INVESTORS, WRITES **KATRINA CREER**

Construction on the first stage of Stockland's "Altrove" estate at Schofields is almost complete with the first residents due to move in by midyear.

The 293-lot development was launched on to the market in March last year and has proven popular with buyers looking to build in Sydney's booming northwest region.

The 50ha of former farm land, opposite Schofields train station, will be transformed into thriving neighbourhood with 1.5ha of playgrounds, picnic facilities and pedestrian and cycle paths.

Also planned is a Town Centre – around 12,000sq m – comprising of restaurants, a supermarket, cafes and local doctors.

"The Schofields train station is right on our doorstep and this, together with the planned extension of the Sydney Metro Northwest Rail Link, will ensure future residents are well connected for commuting across Sydney," said Jonathon Lawson, Stockland senior development manager.

"Altrove is well positioned for buyers wanting to move into the northwest growth corridor, close to parks, schools, shops and employment hubs."

With lot sizes ranging from 252sq m-600sq m, it is able to cater for a wide range budgets from first-home buyers to downsizers. Lots are priced from \$380,000.

The estate has been designed to accommodate freestanding homes as well as semi-detached properties, terrace houses and apartments. Some duplex sites

have already sold and there are plans for retirement living.

Land has already been registered in stage one of the release with a number of homes

nearing completion. A townhouse development within the estate is expected to be released by Easter.

Monique and Jamie Rubio are currently finalising plans for their dream home to be built at Altrove.

The couple, who have a two-year-old daughter, Alexandria, were already living in an older part of Schofields but were attracted to the new estate because of its proximity to the train station.

The were among the early buyers and paid \$340,000 for a 300sq m block. The land is expected to be registered in May.

The couple only moved to Schofields two years ago and have already seen a rapid transformation in that time.

"The parklands will be just perfect for our daughter and there will also be shops and cafes," Ms Rubio, 26, said.

"We have seen it going up – there is a lot of work happening with the metro link around the corner."

Schofields is within the NSW Government's North West Priority Growth Area, with an additional 200,000 people expected to make their home in the region.

The Altrove Sales and Information Centre is open from 10am-5pm, seven days a week at 200 Bridge St, Schofields.

- A 293-lot development
- Priced from \$380,000
- Will offer a mix of semi-detached properties, terrace houses and apartments. Some duplex sites have already sold
- There will be a Town Centre with restaurants, supermarket and cafes
- For more information, visit www.stockland.com.au/altrove or phone 13 LAND (13 5263).

SCHOFIELD'S: ALTROVE



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Jamie and Monique Rubio with their daughter Alexandria near the land they have bought in Schofields. Picture: Peter Kelly