




SA BUSINESS

Port Adelaide Plaza shopping centre ahead of schedule

Richard Evans, The Advertiser

March 19, 2019 12:30am

 Subscriber only



A new Aldi supermarket will open in Port Adelaide tomorrow as part of the \$45 million redevelopment of a major shopping centre.

The swift construction and redevelopment of the former Port Canal shopping by the Precision Group will see Aldi - which is set to have 25 full

time employees onsite - open three weeks ahead of schedule within the former Port Canal shopping centre.

Precision, a major Sydney based commercial property investment and management outfit, has partnered with Adelaide builder BADGE which has extensive experience in delivering new facilities and redeveloping existing centres where significant staging and planning is required.

BADGE managing director, Jim Whiting, is pleased with the progress at the newly renamed Port Adelaide Plaza.

“It is as good as anything we have built,” he said. “BADGE did the Brickworks at Thebarton which was a similar build. We have demolished some of the Port Canal shopping centre and are extending some of it. It’s a pretty big building.”

The two year, two stage, project is due to be completed in about a year’s time and has provided work for between 70 and 120 BADGE contractors daily.

“The original building was built about 30 years ago. It needed a good spruce up,” he said.

“We do quite a few shopping centres, it is certainly the equal of anything we have built.”

Stage 1 is expected to be completed by mid May with just four retail opportunities remaining. The early opening of Aldi and the earlier than expected take up of retail space means that stage 1 is now 91 per cent leased.



Port Adelaide Plaza. Supplied by Precision Group.

From mid April to mid May, about 15 new shops and service retailers will open to complement an existing Coles supermarket, Kmart, Liquorland and the brand new Aldi. There will be more than 1000 free car parking spaces.

Transforming Port Adelaide Plaza will extend the floor plate to more than 29500sq m. The Shanghai Tea House, Boneshaker and Billy's Ming, an Asian infusion restaurant, will also open in May.

The man behind Boneshaker and Billy's Ming menu is Adelaide born chef Billy Petropoulos who has become a global cooking sensation, opening over 40 restaurants in his career in more than eight different countries.

Stage 2 is expected to open in mid 2020. The Brown Falconer designed centre will then include a further 30 shops including mini majors and a medical clinic.

“The vision we have for Port Adelaide Plaza is a direct response to customer needs and trends, it all about the customer experience. We aren’t just investing in the now – we are investing in Port Adelaide’s future,” the Precision Group’s development manager Michael Gillett said.

“We do things differently, but for a very good reason: our commitment to bringing you the lowest possible prices on a wide range of high quality products,” an Aldi spokesperson said.