



Architect Dean Landy at the new Langwarrin Plaza.

Picture: JASON SAMMON. N25FS135

Welcoming, inviting feel a winner

THE \$14 million shopping centre Langwarrin Plaza opened last week with all leases claimed.

A Safeway supermarket is the "anchor" tenant for developer Lascorp's single-storey complex of about 20 tenancies.

Incomplete road-side stores were expected to be finished by Christmas.

An associate of architect Clarke Hopkins Clarke, Dean Landy, said retailing remained buoyant in the

region, but design still influenced a centre's viability.

Langwarrin Plaza aimed for a "grand feel and a fresh design", Mr Landy said.

Features included an over-sized entry and other attention-attracting elements, "book ending" of tenancies to ensure supermarket customers passed all traders' doors, and building heights reaching 2½ half storeys.

The outcome was "a light-filled modern interior, a welcoming, inviting

feel, and an outdoor dining area," Mr Landy said.

The new centre sits lower than adjacent Frankston-Cranbourne Rd.

This posed an extra challenge for designers to make the centre prominent to motorists.

About 1.5km along Frankston-Cranbourne Rd stands similarly sized Langwarrin Gateway shopping centre, the Plaza's most immediate competitor.

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