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Work set to start on bus station

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MEMBER for Maroochydore Fiona Simpson has welcomed the State Government's announcement that construction will begin on the new Maroochydore Bus Station early next year.

Temporary fencing went up around the Horton Parade site last week and Ms Simpson said the demolition of the buildings was expected to occur early next year.

The *Journal* reported on November 25 that the buildings were looking dilapidated after the tenants were forced to vacate their premises to allow work to begin. Ms Simpson described it as a "scandal".

A week of community consultation was held last week at Sunshine Plaza where the community was invited to provide input on the new concept design.

"I absolutely welcome it,



ABANDONED: Dilapidated shops at Horton Pde.

but I'm more concerned about what has happened in the lead-up," Ms Simpson said.

"It really shouldn't have been the hard part and it should never have been included with Coast Connect, which also slowed it down.

"It was clearly in its own right required infrastructure. This is the centrepiece of infrastructure for the bus network that is impeding increasing the bus network." The new bus station will

occupy both sides of Horton Parade at Sunshine Plaza.



ON THE HORIZON: The Coast is again set to experience a busy summer storm season.

Time to clean up ahead of summer storms

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WITH summer storms rolling in, State Emergency Services representatives have urged Coast residents to prepare for the season ahead. SES head controller Janet Scott said 50 per cent of the group's callouts were because people had failed to clean roof gutters. "We go out and there is no physical damage to the house but blocked gutters and very often the water goes from the gutters into the eaves," she said.

"If gutters are cleared you wouldn't have all that water damage."

Ms Scott said the SES was preparing for the season ahead and encouraged residents to do the same. "Residents need to make sure they check the conditions of their roofs or get someone else to do it.

"There should be no loose tiles or roof screws, gutters and pipes clear of rubbish and leaves.

"Have your torches ready with good batteries for them and a battery-powered radio to listen to any updates." Ms Scott said it was also important to identify a safe place in the home.

Small spaces like walk-in wardrobes, corridors and areas away from glass windows were the safest options.

Bureau of Meteorology Queensland climate services manager Jeff Sabburg said it would be a wet summer but southeast Queensland wouldn't have a repeat of January's floods.



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