



## Rising Southport a national hot spot

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SOUTHPORT has been named as a national hot spot for investors, but Gold Coast experts think the spotlight should be also shining on several other city suburbs including Ashmore and Benowa.

Southport was the only Gold Coast location to make it into the Australian Property Investor Hot 100, which is part of the August edition out this week.

The suburb's affordability and central location were the main reasons for its inclusion, but the magazine also highlighted the light rail project that will link Southport to Surfers Paradise and Broadbeach, along with the nearby development of the Gold Coast University Hospital at Parklands.

LJ Hooker Southport principal Alex McCormack said he believed the suburb was about to boom.

"We are in for a good run, thanks to everything that is happening here in the way of infrastructure," he said.

"Part of the reason is that prices have come back and Southport is very affordable."

Ray White Surfers Paradise chief executive Andrew Bell agreed Southport was a great place to invest, but argued places such as Ashmore, Santa Barbara, Coomera and Broadbeach Waters also offered good value.

"Southport has been the sleeper on the Gold Coast," he said.

"It was the premier suburb 30 or 40 years ago.

"But then places like Surfers Paradise became popular."

Mr Bell rated Santa Barbara as one of the city's best-kept property secrets due to its private location tucked in behind Sanctuary Cove and said it had a great village atmosphere.

Ashmore's centrality and elevated, older homes make it worthy of mention, said Mr Bell, who also identified Broadbeach Waters for its investment potential.