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Laura to don chamber cap

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The 45-year-old Surfers resident has been a member of the chamber for three years and last month took the top job 'to make a mark on the area' after former president Paul Darveniza stood down.

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Chamber boss to push membership

By ANDREW POTTS

LAURA Younger has seen Surfers Paradise change beyond recognition and will help to define its future as the new president of the area's chamber of commerce.

The 45-year-old Surfers resident has been a member of the chamber for three years and last month took the top job 'to make a mark on the area' after former president Paul Darveniza stood down.

"The Gold Coast is a wonderful place and Surfers is a pivotal part of it," she said.

"One of my priorities is to increase membership of the chamber to make it more effective."

Mrs Younger, the general manager of the Australian Timeshare and Holiday Ownership Council said it was important for tourist numbers to continue growing.

"I think the general feeling in the area is a bit down because of the economic turmoil and there are not as many tourists here as we would like to see," she said.

"We need to get more people to use the precinct and put more money back in to the area's

businesses.

"Surfers Paradise has to be at the front of people's minds when they are looking for a holiday destination, as well as people looking for a place to build a business and we are developing strategies for the future."

Mrs Younger, a self-described 'Gold Coast girl' grew up in the precinct and said she hoped to see it continue to grow.

"I think it is holding its own and will continue to grow and prosper," she said.



IN CHARGE... Laura Younger hopes to increase membership of Surfers Paradise Chamber of Commerce.