

## **Jim Cregan**

I live in Beachlands with my wife, Sandra, and an old dog called Solomon. My wife was born here – her father ran a GP clinic from the family home on Sanford Street - now Woolworths! It is clear to us that Geraldton is at an exciting stage of development, as it transitions from a country town to a mature, vibrant city. Having worked in senior administrative and leadership roles in a wide range of educational settings, as well as in ornamental horticulture and landscape design, I believe I can help deliver the best outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan. Amongst my priorities, I will:

- i) Insist on financial accountability and transparency. Rises in rates, fees and other charges, must be in line with inflation, and absolutely necessary. A financially stressed community is an unhappy community; sound financial management encourages optimism and positive risk taking across the economic spectrum, for the good of all.
- ii) Advocate for expanded policies of inclusion and access for the disabled and aged communities of the Geraldton region. As the Foreshore development shows, best practice in urban design for access and inclusion is best practice in urban design in its totality. Accessible facilities must be available more broadly across the city, and region. This is not just a social justice issue but an aesthetic and economic one, increasing tourism and expanding the city's economic base.
- iii) Support a balanced approach between appropriate development and the preservation of the built and natural environments. I value heritage deeply – too much has already been lost or degraded - but neither do I want to live in a museum. Thoughtful, creative development now will be the heritage of the future.
- iv) Support and advocate for the region's rich cultural and artistic heritage and increasing diversity of artistic expression.

If you have any question please contact me, or visit Jim Cregan on Facebook.

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