

MEDIA RELEASE



Monday 31 May 2021

Greater Geelong represented on national coastal body

City of Greater Geelong Councillor Jim Mason has been elected to the Australian Coastal Councils Association's Committee of Management.

The role complements Cr Mason's ongoing work as chair of the Council's Rural and Coastal portfolio, as well as his involvement in the Association of Bayside Municipalities and the Geelong – Queenscliff Coastal Adaptation Program.

The national body represents the interests of coastal councils and their communities, advocating on challenges facing these areas such as climate change adaptation, population growth and planning matters.

The Committee of Management has 12 members, made up of two members from each state.

Cr Mason was appointed to the casual vacancy by eight Victorian member councils.

Cr Jim Mason said he was looking forward to representing the interests of Victorian coastal communities, informed by his work in the Greater Geelong region.

"I'm thrilled to have been appointed to the Australian Coastal Councils Association's Committee of Management and I thank the Victorian member councils for their support," Cr Mason said.

"I will use my voice to advocate strongly for the interests of Greater Geelong and Australia's other beautiful and unique coastal communities."

The City has implemented a number of 'clever and creative' initiatives and amendments to address the environmental challenges facing coastal townships in the municipality, including:

- The award-winning artificial Ramblers Reef in Portarlington, made from cages containing recycled shells from restaurants and the seafood industry, to prevent erosion and reduce wave energy;
- The City is building a wave attenuator at The Dell in Clifton Springs, which will become an eco-friendly marine attraction that also mitigates against coastal erosion and restores marine reef communities; and
- Council adopted Amendment C394 last year, which applies a Land Subject to Inundation Overlay to coastal properties that are prone to future flood events and climate change induced sea level rise.

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