

John Castrilli MLA



Representing the people of Bunbury

Back Beach opening

It was great to be invited to officially open Bunbury's new-look Back Beach last Friday.

I enjoyed joining hundreds of others in celebrating the completion of this significant local project which has been many years in the making.

This area of our coastline is an invaluable asset, and like most people who grew up here, I hold it close to my heart.

To me, last Friday's opening was not just about recognising the end of this revitalisation but also served to remind many of us of what a unique and precious resource we have to enjoy in our Back Beach.

Such reminders are great because sometimes we can forget or become complacent about what we have on offer in our own back yard.

Yet last Friday that certainly was not the case and personally, I felt both privileged and rewarded to have been involved in this project during my time as Mayor and now the Member for Bunbury.

I wish to congratulate the City of Bunbury, in particular former councillor and Steering Committee chairman Dave Hart, for driving this project to fruition.

Furthermore, I thank the South West Development Commission for its central role, along with Western Power for its financial contribution.

I am sure most of you will agree, the result of these efforts are worth celebrating.

Reducing red tape

When talking about the topic of red tape over the past few years, I apologise if I have sounded like a broken record.

But during my time as the Member for Bunbury, few topics have frustrated me more.

I've seen so many negative issues and important local developments held back because of this excessive entanglement of red tape around our State's planning and approval processes.

In fact, WA has been officially recognised as the worst State or Territory in Australia in this regard.

Therefore, I was both pleased and relieved by last Friday's announcement of a raft of measures to cut the burden of this red tape on WA businesses and consumers and to reduce unnecessary government regulation in the future.

One of the welcome measures, announced by Treasurer Troy Buswell, will be the establishment of a Red Tape Reduction Group to consult widely to pinpoint the best opportunities to cut down on existing regulation.

This group will be led by Ken Baston MLC and Liza Harvey MLA and will focus on WA's existing stock of regulation.

The group will travel throughout WA during this year, consulting with business, local government and community groups before lodging a report with the Treasurer and the Economic and Expenditure Reform Committee in about nine months.

I encourage interested parties to contact the Red Tape Reduction Group at redtape@dtf.wa.gov.au.

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