

An open letter from Howard R Jones, Kiama Councillor 1995 - 2008.

"Reading between the lines in the Council election campaign"

Dear resident of Gerringong/Gerroa,

As a person who had the privilege of representing the community as a councillor for 13 years I am concerned about some of the directions this election campaign is taking.

Re: Southern Boundary of Gerringong.

During my time as a Councillor, I was deeply involved in the preparation of planning decisions for the future of agricultural land in the Kiama LGA.

In particular, protecting the farm lands between Gerringong and Gerroa was a high priority.

I note that to date, no group in this campaign other than the Greens has given a commitment to preventing any further loss of farm land south of Gerringong.

All three current councillors standing again for re-election supported a motion at the Council meeting of 20th September 2011 to extend the southern boundary of Gerringong to include environmentally zoned agricultural land. Fortunately this motion was defeated.

The current Council has been strong in its resolve to protect farmland whilst at the same time meeting the future housing needs for the area. The Kiama Urban Strategy 2011 is the result.

Other candidates are promoting more land releases as a way of achieving so called "affordable" housing. Providing for those in genuine "housing stress" is much more complex than making a few more blocks available.

I see this simplistic call for "affordable housing", which ignores Council's own long term advice, just code for more farmland covered by concrete.

Will the next Council plan for the long term future of the whole community or for the short term speculative gain of a few?

I urge you to carefully consider a "1" vote for the Greens if you wish to preserve the current Southern Boundary of Gerringong.

Howard R Jones

Kiama Councillor 1995 - 2008



The Greens Team Councillors if elected will commit to:

- Preserving the current southern boundary of Gerringong.
- Protecting community owned assets such as the Leisure Centre, Blue Haven Retirement Village and Council's Community Transport from privatisation.
- Encouraging local businesses which assist and contribute to the development of a truly sustainable and resilient local economy.
- Listening to residents' concerns and being responsive to the community's needs.



Vote 1 The Greens for protection of Gerringong-Gerroa

Authorised by Howard R Jones, 407 Free Selectors Road Foxground 2534