

The Grass Roots Campaign for No Home Depot in Sunland/Tujunga

June 24, 2005

Mayor Elect Antonio Villaraigosa
200 N. Spring Street
Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012

2035 Colorado Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90041

RE: No Home Depot in Sunland Tujunga Grass Roots Campaign

Dear Mayor Elect Villaraigosa:

First, let us congratulate you on your recent victory as Mayor of Los Angeles. We are writing on behalf of the grass roots campaign for No Home Depot in Sunland/Tujunga ("NHDC"). We realize that you do not take office until July, but we wanted to apprise you of a crisis that is presently affecting our community of Sunland-Tujunga.

Our quiet rural neighborhood is being threatened by Home Depot. Last year our K-Mart shut its doors and Home Depot obtained the lease on the property. Because of the location of this property, which is located on the only main thoroughfare through our town, opposition to a Home Depot opening in our area was immediate. Our councilwoman Wendy Greuel is opposed to the opening of a Home Depot on the K-Mart property, as is the Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council ("STNC"). Mayor Hahn also voiced his opposition. Please refer to the STNC website and the NHDC website for letters from Wendy Greuel and Mayor Hahn, as well as community response regarding Home Depot. Those websites are: www.sunlandtujunga.org/council and www.no2homedepot.com.

A Home Depot in our area would be a detriment to our community. It would cause significant loss of small businesses as well as jobs. We have 15 small family-owned businesses that would be negatively impacted by the opening of a Home Depot. The traffic and safety issues alone are astronomical. We have at least four schools and two churches that would be directly affected by the increased traffic. Apperson Elementary and Skyward Christian School would be the most impacted as both are within 2 blocks of the proposed Home Depot site.

What our community wants and needs is a general store on that site. As of now our community is forced to shop outside our area for clothing, school supplies, and other

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goods. The potential for revenue that a general store would bring in is much greater than another home improvement store.

We are sure once you have a chance to visit the websites, read Councilwoman Greuel's letter and Mayor Hahn's letter, and do some research on your own you will support the NHDC. We would like to invite you or a representative from your office to attend our next Town Hall meeting. Our last Town Hall meeting was a huge success with over 400 people showing their support for the No Home Depot Campaign. We need your support in opposing Home Depot in our community and we look forward to you coming out on the record against Home Depot opening in our community. We would like to be able to use your support as leverage in our ongoing negotiations with Home Depot.

We will be marching in our local July 4th parade to increase awareness and raise community support for the No Home Depot Campaign. We will all be wearing our No Home Depot in Sunland Tujunga t-shirts. Please let us know if we can send you a t-shirt or if someone from your office would like to join us.

Thank you for taking the time to hear our concerns and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

JOE BARRETT



On Behalf of The Grass Roots Campaign for
No Home Depot in Sunland/Tujunga
Chairman

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JB:pjw

cc: Councilwoman Wendy Greuel
Dale Thrush, Planning Deputy
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Assemblyman Keith Richman