

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN SUNLAND-TUJUNGA

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council



7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042 • www.stnc.org • (818) 951-7411 • FAX (818) 951-7412
Design Advisory Committee

August 21, 2006

Councilmember Wendy Greuel
City Hall Office
200 N. Spring Street, Room 475
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Proposed Home Depot in Sunland

Dear Councilmember Greuel,

As you know, the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety recently issued a permit to Home Depot for "Tenant Improvements" on the former K-Mart site at 8040 Foothill Boulevard in Sunland. This permit was issued after a decision by Daniel Scott of the Planning Department that the so-called "tenant improvements" did not meet the threshold of "Project" as defined in the Foothill Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan.

The No Home Depot Campaign (NHDC) believes this decision should be appealed, on the grounds that the process of reaching this decision involved several errors of fact, as well as serious abuse of discretion. Your Planning Deputy, Dale Thrush, has attended several meetings with members of the No Home Depot Campaign, and is familiar with this issue in detail, if you would like more information. The NHDC also has extensive written analysis from a professional engineer that supports their contentions, as well as other information.

You have been aware for nearly two years now that the Sunland-Tujunga community is vigorously opposed to the presence of a Home Depot on the former K-Mart site.

The No Home Depot Campaign recently reminded the Design Advisory Committee that, in your own letter to Home Depot in February, 2005 (a copy of which is attached), you stated that,

"...any project permit that is issued will be appealed, and if necessary, I will bring the matter before the full City Council".

Since a permit has now been issued, we would like to request that you appeal this decision on behalf of your constituents in Sunland-Tujunga, as you asserted you would in your letter to Home Depot. If there are more expeditious and/or appropriate methods for you to use other than the appeal process, we would like to request that you use any such power(s) of your office. Whether the correct method for you to use is an appeal, or something else, the end results we would like you to achieve are:

1. For LADBS to revoke the permit it issued to Home Depot; and
2. For the Planning Department to reverse its decision, so that it correctly states that Home Depot's proposed plans do indeed constitute a "Project" as defined in our Specific Plan. This will ensure that the Project will receive the proper environmental scrutiny that it requires.

We hope you understand the importance and urgency of this situation to the entire community of Sunland-Tujunga, and that you will respond to our request in the very near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victor M. Castro IV". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Victor M. Castro IV, Chairman
Design Advisory Committee of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council