



**WENDY GREUEL**  
COUNCILMEMBER, SECOND DISTRICT  
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February 15, 2005

Mr. Michael Abbate  
Home Depot USA, Inc.  
3800 West Chapman Avenue  
Orange, CA 92868

**Re: Proposed Home Depot Store in Sunland, California**

Dear Mr. Abbate:

I am a member of the Los Angeles City Council, and I represent the Sunland-Tujunga area where Home Depot proposes to locate a new store.

I understand that you plan to remodel or rebuild the former K-Mart building for use as a Home Depot. I also understand that you failed to consult with the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council and my office before filing your application for a Project Permit Compliance. I cannot overstate how offensive your actions are to the Sunland-Tujunga community and to me.

Several months ago, my staff advised your consultants that a free-standing Home Depot on the K-Mart site was unacceptable and that the zone changes needed for a new building would be vigorously opposed. Your consultants were also advised that the people of Sunland-Tujunga are very reasonable and are likely to support a project that addresses real community needs such as a department store, movie theaters and the like.

My constituents play a critical role in land use decisions in my district. In fact, your consultants were told about a mixed use project where the community ultimately insisted that the developer build a project that was significantly *larger* than the project he originally proposed. That point was not missed by the consultants, because one of them attended the mixed use project's public hearing and saw, first hand, the kind of contribution this community can offer when it is involved in the process.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CHAIR: HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
VICE CHAIR: AUDITS AND GOVERNMENTAL EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE  
MEMBER: PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE




I want you to understand that, while there is still time to correct your course, you have made a very serious mistake. I have instructed my staff to use the full resources of my office and appropriate city departments to oppose your Project Permit Compliance on all legally recognizable grounds. That means that any project permit that may be issued will be appealed, and if necessary, I will bring the matter before the full City Council. At the same time, the community of Sunland-Tujunga is mobilizing to oppose the project, and I understand there are plans to lawfully picket your facility if it ever opens.

Having expressed my great displeasure with your actions to date, I see two ways in which Home Depot can deal with the matter: it can engage the Sunland-Tujunga community in a discussion of the project, or Home Depot can withdraw its application and abandon the project. Any other course will be met with maximum opposition.

I urge you to seriously consider these options.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Wendy Greuel', written over a horizontal line.

Wendy Greuel  
Councilmember, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Los Angeles City Council