

From Pioneer Press "Scoop", an on-line blog.

May 03, 2006

Maybe it Wasn't That Bush Endorsement...

The best moment of the SuperTarget appeal hearing on Wednesday night came during the testimony of University United executive director Brian McMahon.

He wasn't a fan.

"We could add a lot more retail to the existing parking lot Target has. A lot more jobs," he told the City Council.

But that wasn't his only argument against Target. "Five years ago, there was a proposal for a Home Depot big box at Lexington and University with a \$2.4 million subsidy that got University United on the business of promoting and advocating for TOD in a very big way," McMahon said. "We even ended up putting it in our bylaws -- advocacy for transit oriented development.

"My first appeal before this council was the Home Depot project where we lost," he continued. "But we did manage to avoid a shutout, and got one vote of support. And as it turns out, that council member went on to become mayor. So if you vote with us tonight, who knows? We think there's some interesting precedent here."

The council didn't take the bait. The put the vote off until May 17 -- although they did tell Target to come up with a better plan.

Posted by CityHallScoop on May 3, 2006 at 07:33 PM | [Permalink](#) | [TrackBack](#)