

HONOLULU



CITY LIGHTS

PRESENTED BY THE CITY AND
COUNTY OF HONOLULU
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE
FRIENDS OF HONOLULU CITY
LIGHTS

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Lavina Wong
Macy's West

Joan Manke
City Liaison

Carol Costa
Friends contact
Citylights.honolulu@gmail.com
PO Box 8877
Honolulu, Hawaii 96830
Website:
www.honolulucitylights.org

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

April 22, 2009

The Honorable Todd K. Apo
Chair
Honolulu City Council and Members
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Council Chair and Members:

On behalf of the Friends of Honolulu City Lights, I ask that you restore the city funding for the 2009 HCL celebration. As co-sponsors of this month-long event with the City and County of Honolulu, we are quite concerned that sufficient funds will be available for this year's 25th Anniversary celebration.

Our role is to be a partner with the City in designing and funding each year's event. Our board works hard all year long raising funds through the sale of a commemorative ornament. We also solicit donations from the private sector and create a signature t-shirt to keep the event free to the public.

Thousands upon thousands of island families and visitors regard the opening of Honolulu City Lights as the kick-off of the holiday season on Oahu. They flock to Honolulu Hale and line King Street to see Electric Light Parade and the lighting of the 50-foot City Christmas Tree.

Many island families cannot afford to purchase a Christmas tree or have a photo taken of their children with Santa. But they know that if they come to Honolulu Hale during the month of December, they can see the decorated trees and lights, the giant outdoor displays, hear holiday music and see Santa *all for free*.

During these tough economic times, now is not the time to reduce funding for Honolulu's most highly-anticipated holiday celebration.

Sincerely,

Pauline Worsham

Pauline Worsham
President
Friends of Honolulu City Lights

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