Proposed Letter to the Editor – By Member Shain Haug

The Holiday Lights on the bridge over Waring Road bring cheer to the residents of the Navajo Communities. The Allied Gardens Community Council has enjoyed bringing them to our neighbors for many years. But no more.

December 2025 we planned to put up the lights for another season. But the electrical connection on the north side of the bridge had been taken away – whether by vandals or by the city there was no way of telling. But there would be no lights that year.

During the design of the bridge in 2000 we told our councilmember that we would provide holiday lighting at no expense to or demand on the city if the city would provide electrical power connections. In 2001 the city installed connections, and has since maintained until last year, the connections on light poles on both sides of the bridge.

In early 2026 we asked our Councilmember's office to get the connections restored. The following is an excerpt from the city's response: "…They [members of the Allied Gardens Community Council] asked if City staff could replace them [the electrical connections]. City staff doesn't normally install electrical cords because of theft and safety reasons and, specifically, staff doesn't work on decorative lighting. We denied the request at the time and told her they would have to get a permit from DSD and hire a contractor to reinstall the missing electrical cords..."

What this administrative salad means is that the city will not restore a service that it installed and provided in support of community beautification for 25 years. And so it will remain until our neighbors speak up. Give us your support in getting the message to the city, that the city should do what is necessary to support the holiday display.