

# Manoa Recognized as Disaster Ready Community

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency

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NEWS RELEASE

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BE READY MANOA RECEIVED DISASTER RESILIENT

RECOGNITION AT 9th ANNUAL MANOA VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY WATCH MEETING

HONOLULU – The community group Be Ready Manoa was honored as a disaster resilient community yesterday by local, state, and federal officials during the 9th Annual Manoa Valley Neighborhood Security Watch Meeting. Be Ready Manoa received recognition as a disaster resilient community through the Hawaii Hazards Awareness and Resilience Program (HHARP).

Distinguished guests that joined in honoring Be Ready Manoa's designation as a disaster resilient community included:

- Representative Isaac Choy
- Vern Miyagi, Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
- Bruce E. Oliveira, Community Programs Director, State of Hawaii Department of Defense
- Kevin Richards, Natural Hazards Planner, Hawaii Emergency

Management Agency

- Ann Kobayashi, Honolulu City Councilmember
- Crystal van Beelen, Disaster Preparedness Officer, Department of Emergency Management
- John Bravender, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Be Ready Manoa is the fifth community to achieve this recognition. Waimanalo, Kailua, Aina Haina and Joint Base Pearl Harbor are the other communities.

HHARP is a statewide program designed to guide communities through a disaster preparedness process that will empower them before, during, and after natural disasters such as hurricane, flash flood, and tsunami. Completion of HHARP includes presentations on local hazards and guidance in creating a community emergency plan.

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