



September 8, 2008

Ald. Bob Donovan
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Council to Vote on Ordinance Requiring Surveillance Cameras For Taverns

*Ordinance Requires Taverns With Three or More Crimes to Install Cameras Inside and
Outside Premises*

A measure requiring video surveillance cameras for city taverns and nightclubs where police have responded for three or more crimes during a one-year period will go to the full Common Council next week.

The amended ordinance, recommended for approval last week (Sept. 2) by the Council's Public Safety Committee, will be taken up by the full Council on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at City Hall. **Ald. Bob Donovan**, the measure's primary sponsor and chair of the Public Safety Committee, said the measure will help protect customers and the employees and owners of establishments throughout Milwaukee.

"Surveillance cameras have proven to be very effective tools in deterring and solving crimes, and I'm pleased and hopeful that we'll soon be able to use them to bolster public safety in and around licensed establishments in the city," he said.

On the near south side, video surveillance cameras have contributed to helping solve numerous crimes, including one fatal shooting, Ald. Donovan said.

The Milwaukee code permits the police chief to order the installation of security cameras in any retail establishment where three or more criminal incidents have occurred in a one-year period, and the ordinance clarifies the definitions relating to retail establishment security measures to include all licensed alcohol beverage establishments. It also requires security cameras that are installed in Class "B" taverns to provide a clear image of the entire premises as described in the Class "B" license as well as the public right-of-way abutting the premises and any off-street parking lot used expressly for patron parking. It also requires on-duty employees of retail establishments, licensed alcohol beverage establishments and convenience stores to provide a copy of recorded digital security camera images to law enforcement officers immediately upon request.