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Ald. Bob Donovan
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Booming Could Get You Busted

“Operation Bass Busters” Targeting Loud Car Stereos

Milwaukee police have begun issuing tickets to motorists who blast their car stereos to eardrum-cracking levels on city streets, Ald. Bob Donovan said today.

“Complaints about excessively loud music generated by car stereos is at the very top of the list when it comes to calls to my office, and I’m very pleased that police are addressing this very important quality of life issue,” Ald. Donovan said.

Ald. Donovan, chair of the Common Council’s Public Safety Committee, said he asked MPD Deputy Chief Dale Schunk about the possibility of having officers target loud car stereos after seeing media reports about just such operations being conducted by Racine police. In Racine, officers are using special decibel-measuring detectors to identify excessively loud car stereos, and then squads are dispatched to pull over and ticket offending vehicles.

“When I saw the reports I thought ‘Why isn’t this being done here?’” the alderman said.

So far MPD is focusing Operation Bass Busters in the 6th Police District on the city’s south side, including parts of Ald. Donovan’s 8th District, he said. “But I intend to see if it’s possible to expand this initiative citywide, because loud car stereos are a problem across our city,” he said.

Ald. Donovan said Operation Bass Busters will be the subject of a soon to be announced news conference.