
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

July 13, 2010

Ald. Bob Donovan
(414) 286-3778

Citizens to Patrol Milwaukee's Jackson Park Neighborhood

News Conference Thursday (July 15) to Announce New Safety Initiative

Citizen volunteers will begin conducting bicycle and walking patrols of the Jackson Park neighborhood – all part of the new **Jackson Park Safety Patrol**, Alderman Bob Donovan said.

Alderman Donovan will be joined by dozens of neighborhood residents and patrol volunteers during a **launch news conference at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 15, 2010 at S. 49th and W. Dakota Streets (Manitoba Park). The volunteers will start patrols immediately following the news conference.**

Alderman Donovan, chair of the Common Council's Public Safety Committee, said a grant from the Betty Brinn Foundation helped secure special vests, cell phones and bicycles that volunteers will use during the patrols. "The generous grant from the Betty Brinn Foundation to the Jackson Park Community Association was tremendous, helping to secure some essential equipment that volunteers will need each time they're out on patrol, and I want to offer my sincere thanks to the foundation," he said.

With public resources tighter than ever, the willingness of citizens to personally volunteer to look for possible criminal and/or suspicious activity in the neighborhood "is truly praiseworthy," the alderman said. "Given the finite resources of the city, I applaud these citizens for stepping up to the plate and thinking outside the box about how they might help keep their neighborhood as safe as possible," he said.

"I urge other neighborhoods throughout the city to start thinking about putting together similar volunteer patrols," Alderman Donovan said.

Patrol volunteers will be working closely with Milwaukee police, notifying officers whenever they observe potential criminal activity or trouble, the alderman said.

"They (volunteers) will complement our officers by adding some very attentive eyes and ears to the streets and alleys of Jackson Park," he said.

-30-