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High-tech device would alert police when shots are fired

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(LOUISVILLE) -- Firing a gun in some parts of Louisville could soon be the same as calling police. The Metro Council is considering the purchase of acoustic sensors, which identify the sound of gunshots and send the location of the sound to nine-one-one dispatchers within seconds.

The council's Public Safety Committee chairman Kevin Kramer says he saw a demonstration of the technology years ago at a National League of Cities convention.

A spokesman for Shot-Spotter says the sensors use sound wave fingerprints to distinguish gunshots from firecrackers or a car muffler backfiring.

Members of the council's Public Safety Committee will watch a demonstration of the devices today at the police Firearms Training Center.

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