

Josh Mandelbaum (Ward 3) running unopposed for re-election City Council Candidate Survey Reponses

2. Safety Near Schools

City leaders are considering lowering school zone speed limits to 15–20 mph, adding flashing signs, and redesigning dangerous roads near schools. How should the City approach school zone speed limits and enforcement?

We should be lowering the speed limit in school zones and combine the lower speed limit with greater enforcement. While the state has restricted the use of automated cameras, school speed zones seem to be one of the areas where they are likely to grant new cameras, and the city should apply for them.

When road redesigns near schools may reduce lanes or change traffic flow, how would you balance child safety with other transportation needs?

We should prioritize designing our roads to be safe for all users. In most instances, the safer design can accommodate traffic flow without any major issues. For example, Grand Avenue outside of Merrill Middle School would be safer as a three-lane road, and the current traffic count would flow just fine on a three lane road.

What additional steps would you take to help children walk and bike safely to school?

We need to fund more miles of priority one sidewalks. Every kid in the city should have a safe walking route to school within the next decade.