



Mike Simonson (At-Large Candidate)
2025 Des Moines City Council Candidate Survey

3. Safer Streets & Protected Bike Lanes

The City's Vision Zero plan calls for enhanced bikeways and slow zones near schools. Protected bike lanes—separated with bollards, planters, or curbs—are proven to reduce crashes and make streets more predictable. What role do you see for physically protected bike lanes in Des Moines?

In Des Moines, we are predominantly working with existing paving. I support a striped area between bike lanes and drive lanes. I do not support a raised curb between bike lanes and vehicular lanes, it's too costly to maintain. In the suburbs, they are working from scratch, where there are wide trails along the major corridors.

How should the City ensure bike lanes are designed consistently so drivers and riders know what to expect?

Reduce the number of options; it's terribly confusing.

How should protected bike lanes fit into the City's Vision Zero crash reduction strategy?

See above.