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# Shelby - Utica News

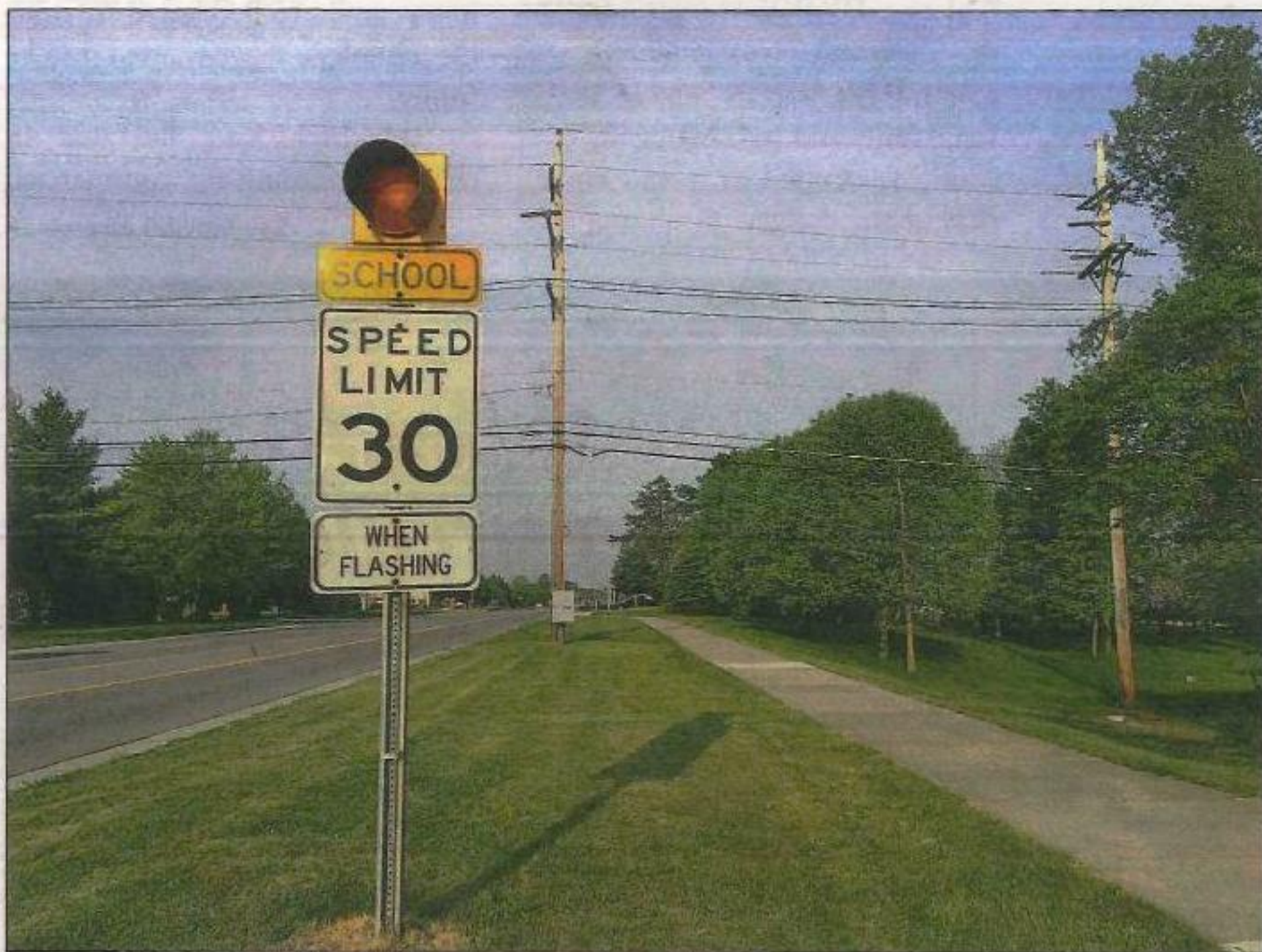


**SHELBY WANTS YOU  
TO TAKE A SELFIE/3A**

**EISENHOWER  
ADVANCES TO  
REGIONALS/6A**







On May 17, Shelby Township approved a sidewalk study to determine if it is eligible to receive federal funds to connect gaps in sidewalks near schools through a program called Safe Routes to School.

Photo by Sarah Wojcik

# SIDEWALK STUDY APPROVED FOR FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM

BY SARAH WOJCIK  
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SHELBY TOWNSHIP — The Safe Routes to School program is an initiative to provide federal funding to close gaps that exist in sidewalks around schools for the safety and physical fitness of students.

On May 17, the Shelby Township Board of Trustees unanimously authorized township engineering firm Fazal Khan & Associates to partner with the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and the

Michigan Fitness Foundation to assess the township's grant eligibility and create an action plan.

Fazal Khan & Associates engineer Shannon Filarecki said Shelby Township could receive up to \$200,000 annually through the program, as long as the township funds 20 percent of construction costs.

"It would save the township a considerable amount of money," Filarecki said.

The program's budget, she said, has been approved for five years, but Shelby Township could not

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# Sidewalks

from page 3A

apply for a grant this year because it does not have an action plan in effect. However, the township could apply the next four years, she said.

Because SEMCOG and the MFF volunteered to do 90 percent of the work, Filarecki said she expects her firm's bill to be less than \$1,000 for the other 10 percent of the work.

The federal funding would target a 2-mile radius around whichever schools Utica Community Schools would want to include, Filarecki said.

"As long as Utica Schools is on board and identifies the schools

that want us to close sidewalk gaps for them, then we can prioritize those projects," she said.

The school district is on board.

"The district supports the township's efforts to create an action plan to secure grants for safe walkways and bike paths to school," UCS spokesman Tim McAvoy said in a statement.

Township Clerk Stan Grot made the motion to establish a Safe Routes to School action plan to facilitate eligibility for grant programs to fund priority sidewalk construction.

"I think it's an excellent program, and it's very good for Shelby Township, in my opinion," Grot said.

For more information, call

Fazal Khan & Associates at (586) 739-8007 or visit [www.saferoutesmichigan.org](http://www.saferoutesmichigan.org).

Call Staff Writer Sarah Wojcik at (586) 498-1029.

**In-Home Sales Appointments**  
**0% FINANCING**

**2 Draft**

**VER**

**5**

**CUSTOM**

The advertisement features a photograph of a modern living room with large windows, a white table, and a sofa. The text is overlaid on the image, with 'In-Home Sales Appointments' and '0% FINANCING' in a circular graphic at the top. To the right, '2 Draft' is written in large purple letters. Below that, 'VER' is written in red. At the bottom right, '5' and 'CUSTOM' are visible in red and white respectively.