



BOB KULP

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 69TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

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“Road to Sustainability Bills Pass Assembly Transportation Committee”

Bills To Provide Operational Reforms and Efficiency Advance to a Vote of the Full Assembly

Madison, WI - The Assembly Transportation Committee recently held public hearings and voted in Executive Session to approve several bills from the “Road to Sustainability Package (RSP).” A recent audit by the Legislative Audit Bureau highlighted the need for the Department of Transportation (DOT) to “use its funds more effectively and improve how it manages the planning, engineering, and construction phases of state highway projects, as well as its maintenance of state highways.”

“The package of bills approved by the Assembly Transportation Committee aim to accomplish these goals and provide meaningful operational reforms to improve efficiency at the DOT,” said Committee Chairman Bob Kulp (R-Stratford).

The bills the Committee approved for passage included:

- **Assembly Bill 273** - Creates a Subgrade Efficiency Provision to allow contractors to review DOT’s list of approved, structurally equivalent alternatives for subgrade construction and propose whichever subgrade construction approach is lowest cost for the contractor to bid and construct.
- **Assembly Bill 275** - Expands the number of plans on the shelf so that the project pipeline can be managed more efficiently. Under this bill DOT must maintain an inventory of design-build projects.
- **Assembly Bill 284** - Creates a financial-savings mechanism within DOT by providing additional discretionary merit compensation for employees who identify cost savings, efficiency or innovation within the agency.
- **Assembly Bill 285** - Requires DOT to rebid any project where only a single bid is received if that bid exceeds DOT’s estimated cost of work by 10% or more. The bill also allows DOT to avoid the requirement in certain cases.

“This package of bills will help improve Wisconsin’s transportation infrastructure by creating a more efficient DOT that will be less reliant on bonding.”

These bills now have an opportunity to advance and they’ve been scheduled for a vote in the full Assembly tomorrow.

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REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S 69TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT