

Assembly signs off on transportation package

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The Assembly today approved four measures from the so-called Road to Sustainability package authored by Rep. Joe Sanfelippo:

*AB 273 would offer ways for the DOT to source materials at lower cost.

*AB 275 would require the DOT to up the number of design-build projects in its pipeline to ensure projects are ready to go once resources are available.

*AB 284 would create a discretionary merit fund to incentivize employees to look for cost-saving methods.

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*AB 285 would require the DOT in some circumstances to reject a bid if it was the only one received on a project.

All four measures passed 61-35 on a party-line vote. Dems previously expressed concerns that the package would be restrictive of local government's ability to address transportation measures and that new DOT Secretary Craig Thompson was not consulted in the development of the bills.