The toll committee task force requested that RWSTC and GMISTC evaluate the applicability of the yellow background and black copy “warning” color of the M4-15 “TOLL” sign shown in Figure 2F-4 given the auxiliary route sign number and designated use. Should the sign be considered a regulatory sign instead of warning? Should the sign number be warning instead of auxiliary route?
Section 2F.11 requires that the M4-15 plaque be mounted above route markers in all route sign assemblies **approaching** tolled highway segments to warn drivers that the segment of highway they are about to enter is tolled.

Section 2F.13 further expands the use of the TOLL plaque requiring that a rectangular yellow background panel with black legend TOLL be incorporated into guide signs leading road users to a tolled highway or highway segment.

Section 2C.01 states that warning signs call attention to unexpected conditions on or adjacent to a highway that may not be readily apparent to road users. Section 2C.03 states that unless specifically designated otherwise, all warning signs shall be diamond-shaped with a black legend and border on a yellow background.

Section 2C.53 and Section 2C.54 states that supplemental warning plaques shall be used only in combination with a warning or regulatory sign they supplement.

Section 2D.12 requires that all route sign auxiliaries match the color of the route sign they supplement. Other M4-XX auxiliary route markers such as TRUCK, TEMPORARY, ALTERNATE, BUSINESS, JCT are consistently utilized in all route sign assemblies related to the applicable highway or highway segments including confirmatory route marker assemblies.

The yellow background with black copy “TOLL” auxiliary warning sign is used to call drivers attention to the tolled condition of a highway or highway segment to which they are being guided. The sign is to be used in route sign assemblies and on guide signs approaching tolled highways or highway segments but its use is independent of other regulatory and warning signs. Route sign continuity is not maintained as the warning sign is only required to be used on approach to the tolled highway or highway segment and its use in not required in confirmatory route marker sign assemblies. The “TOLL” auxiliary warning sign is not being used as a supplemental plaque nor as a route sign auxiliary.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Retain the yellow M4-15 plaque as shown in Figure 2F-4 below and Sections 2F.11 and 2F.13 noted below. Change the M4-15 designation to a W16-X code.

**Complete 2009 MUTCD Sections 2F.11 and 2F.13 noted below for information.**

**RECOMMENDED WORDING:** Deletions in red strikeouts, insertions in red underline.

**Section 2F.11 TOLL Auxiliary Sign (M4-15W16-X)**

**Standard:**

01 The TOLL (M4-15W16-X) auxiliary sign (see Figure 2F-4) shall have a black legend and border on a yellow background and shall be mounted directly above the route sign of a numbered toll highway or, if used, above the cardinal
direction and alternative route auxiliary signs, in any route sign assembly
providing directions from a non-toll highway to the toll highway or to a segment
of a highway on which the payment of a toll is required.

Figure 2F-4 ETC Account-Only Auxiliary Signs for Use in Route Sign Assemblies

Section 2F.13 Toll Facility and Toll Plaza Guide Signs – General

Support:
01 Toll plazas are used on many toll highways, bridges, and tunnels for collection of tolls
from road users. Electronic toll collection and/or open-road tolling might also be used on
such facilities, either in addition to or in place of collecting toll payments at toll plazas.

02 Chapter 2G contains information regarding signs for preferential and managed lanes
that are applicable to toll roads.

03 Chapter 3E contains information regarding pavement markings for certain toll plaza
applications.

Standard:
04 Directional assemblies for entrances to a toll highway or to a road leading
directly to a toll highway with no opportunity to exit before paying or being
charged a toll, shall clearly indicate that the facility is a toll facility. The TOLL
auxiliary sign (see Section 2F.11) shall be used above the route
sign of a numbered toll facility in any route sign assembly that provides directions to the toll route from another highway.

A rectangular panel with the black legend TOLL on a yellow background shall be incorporated into the guide signs leading road users to a toll highway (see Figure 2F-5).

Guide signs for toll highways, toll plazas, and tolled or priced managed lanes (see Chapter 2G) shall have white legends and borders on green backgrounds, except as specifically provided by Sections 2F.13 through 2F.16.

Option:

Where conditions do not permit separate signs, or where it is important to associate a particular regulatory or warning message with specific guidance information, regulatory and/or warning messages may be combined with guide signs for toll plazas using plaques, header panels, or rectangular regulatory or warning panels incorporated within the guide signs, as long as the proper legend and background colors are preserved.

Standard:

When regulatory messages are incorporated within a guide sign, they shall be on a rectangular panel with black legend on a white background. When warning messages are incorporated within a guide sign, they shall be on a rectangular panel with black legend on a yellow background.

Support:

Figure 2F-5 shows examples of guide signs for entrances to various types of toll highways and for ETC account-only entrances to non-toll highways.

Figure 2F-5  Examples of Guide Signs for Entrances to Toll Highways or Ramps

Standard:

Signing for entrances to toll highways where ETC is employed only through license plate character recognition such that road users are not required to establish a toll account or register their vehicle equipment shall comply with the provisions of Paragraphs 4 and 5 (see Figure 2F-6).
If only vehicles with registered ETC accounts are allowed to use a toll highway, the guide signs for entrances to such facilities shall incorporate the pictograph adopted by the toll facility's ETC payment system and the regulatory message ONLY (see Figures 2F-1, 2F-5, and 2F-6). The use, size, and placement of the ETC pictograph shall comply with the provisions of Sections 2F.03 and 2F.04.

Support:
12 Sections 2F.11, 2F.12, and 2F.17 contain additional provisions regarding signs for toll highways that only accept ETC payments.

13 Sections 2G.16 through 2G.18 contain additional provisions regarding signs for priced managed lanes that only accept ETC payments.

Option:
14 Where a toll highway on which tolls are collected only electronically also accepts payments from registered toll account users and those road users not registered in a toll account program are assessed a nominal surcharge in addition to the toll, or registered toll account users are assessed a discounted toll, such information may be displayed on a separate information sign near the entrance to such a facility (see Figure 2F-6).

Support:
15 Figure 2F-7 shows an example of guide signs for alternative toll and non-toll ramp connections to a non-toll highway.
RWSTC Vote: For: 21
Against: 0
Abstentions: 2
Motion Passed

June 23, 2011 GMI TC Vote: For: 22
Against: 0
Abstain: 2

January 10, 2013 GMI TC Vote: For: 23
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

January 10, 2013 RW TC Vote: For: 24
Against: 2
Abstain: 1
Motion Passed