

**NCUTCD Council Meeting – January 4, 2018**

**NCUTCD Proposal for Changes to the  
Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices**

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:** Guide/Motorist Information (GMI) Signs Committee  
**ITEM NUMBER:** 16A-GM1-01  
**TOPIC:** National Toll Interoperability Symbol  
**ORIGIN OF REQUEST:** MAP-21  
**AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD:** Section 2F

**DEVELOPMENT HISTORY:**

- **Approved by Toll & Managed Lanes Task Force: 01/06/2016**
- **Approved by Technical Committee: 01/07/2016**
- **GMI Approval Following Sponsors: 06/09/2016**
- **Text approved by NCUTCD Council: 06/10/16**
- **Logo approved by NCTUCD Council: 01/05/18**

**SUMMARY:**

This proposal adopts a standard roadway symbol for national toll interoperability.

**DISCUSSION**

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21) requires all Federal-aid highway toll facilities to implement technologies or business practices that provide for the interoperability (IOP) of electronic toll collection in the United States by October 1, 2016.

According to the International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA) web site, “The ultimate vision for North American interoperability is for customers to be able to pay for travel and related services on toll facilities across the continent with a single account and a choice of payment methods.”

About three years ago, IBTTA embraced this mandate and created an interoperability (IOP) committee of toll operators charged with achieving national toll interoperability later this year.

The IBTTA IOP committee is composed of representatives of IBTTA member toll agencies and firms that provide services to the toll industry. The IBTTA IOP committee is structured into a Steering Committee and four sub-committees: Roadside Operations (cost analysis, protocol testing), Back Office Operations (technology and finance issues), Governance (ongoing

39 oversight, IOP compliance, membership), and Communications & Marketing (public outreach  
40 and road symbol development). The Communications & Marketing (C&M) sub-committee is  
41 comprised of toll operators from the northeast, Florida, Texas, Colorado, Washington, California  
42 and a NCUTCD representative to ensure general compliance with MUTCD roadway symbol  
43 design principles.

44  
45 The Florida Turnpike Enterprise has contributed graphical and financial resources in developing  
46 candidate roadway symbols. The C&M sub-committee paired down these pictorial  
47 representations to five candidate symbols and five “international” symbols (as requested by  
48 FHWA’s Traffic Control Device Pooled Fund Study). The FHWA will assist IBTTA in selecting  
49 a preferred roadway symbol as part of the Pooled Fund Study.

50  
51 While MAP-21 requires toll operators to be interoperable later this year, the complexities  
52 associated with achieving national toll interoperability are such that toll interoperability is  
53 currently in place on a regional basis and will continue to be rolled-out on a regional basis prior  
54 to achieving full national toll interoperability.

55  
56 The new toll interoperability symbol is the nucleus of a national campaign to promote national  
57 toll interoperability. The purpose of this symbol is to convey the message to motorists “Your  
58 Registered Toll Payment Device Works Here.” Towards this end, IBTTA has played a key role  
59 in developing and selecting candidate symbols that conform with general MUTCD design  
60 principles and FHWA-approved research methods to identify a symbol and standard word  
61 message that is comprehensible to motorists. In addition, IBTTA toll operators have agreed to  
62 the following principals in the deployment of the new IOP symbol:

- 63 • symbol shall be included in the MUTCD
- 64 • symbol shall not replace a toll authority’s existing pictograph
- 65 • symbol shall supplement toll authority’s existing pictograph
- 66 • symbol shall be released as part of a national communication program on  
67 Interoperability.

## 70 **RECOMMENDED MUTCD CHANGES**

71  
72 The following present the proposed changes to the current MUTCD within the context of the  
73 current MUTCD language. Proposed additions to the MUTCD are shown in blue underline and  
74 proposed deletions from the MUTCD are shown in ~~red strikethrough~~. Changes previously  
75 approved by NCUTCD Council (but not yet adopted by FHWA) are shown in green double  
76 underline for additions and ~~green double strikethrough~~ for deletions. In some cases, background  
77 comments may be provided with the MUTCD text. These comments are indicated by  
78 highlighted light blue in brackets.

### 81 Section 2F.19 National Toll Interoperability Symbol

82 Support:

83 01 The display of the A National Toll Interoperability (NIOP) symbol (see Figure 2X-XX)  
84 communicates to motorists that the tolls system is compliant with the NIOP toll collection

85 protocol and related services across the nation may be paid with a single pre-registered account.

86 **Standard:**

87 02 **The NIOP symbol shall have the design shown in Figure 2X-XX. If a ETC is**  
88 **interoperable, the Toll Interoperability symbol shall be displayed along with the ETC**  
89 **pictograph. The Toll Interoperability symbol shall be displayed to the right of the ETC toll**  
90 **pictograph(s), or within the ETC pictograph, near the lower right hand corner (see Figure**  
91 **2F-xx).**

92 **Guidance**

93 03 *If used, the NIOP symbol should be displayed in a visible location such as:*

- 94 A. *In close proximity to an ETC pictograph (e.g., upper right corner, lower right corner,*  
95 *immediate right or beneath).*
- 96 B. *Within an Express Lane header panel.*
- 97 C. *On an advance sign for the ETC facility.*

98 *Figure 2X-XX provides examples of how the NIOP symbol should be displayed.*

99

**Figure 2F-XX Interoperability Symbol and Example Locations**



102 January, 2016 – GMI Vote:  
103 FOR: Unanimous      AGAINST:      ABSTAIN:

104  
105 June 9, 2016 – GMI Vote:  
106 FOR: Unanimous      AGAINST:      ABSTAIN:

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108 June 10, 2016 – Council Vote – Text Component  
109 FOR: Unanimous      AGAINST:      ABSTAIN:

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111 January 5, 2018 – Council Vote – Logo Component  
112 FOR: Unanimous      AGAINST:      ABSTAIN:

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