

Mileage Reimbursement Rate for Volunteers Using their Own V8 Vehicle for Road Assessment Touring

7/11/20

CONCLUSION: \$1.08 per mile

This rate should not be used for point-to-point traveling that does not involve the regimen of road assessment, or for road assessment using a vehicle with a smaller engine.

This report is to establish the reasonable rate to reimburse a volunteer for using their *V8 engine auto to perform typical road assessment touring* on Ranch roads. This type of touring is more costly than just driving from point to point because it involves a lot of idling while the engine is running in order to view and to take notes, so these things cause greater fuel expense (as well as greater car wear, but we won't address that because we have no way to empirically measure that cost). It is also understood that a V8 engine uses more fuel than average.

The calculation below uses actual fuel usage for an actual 55 mile road assessment tour in July 2020 (using a V8 engine van, which would be approximately the same as a V8 engine truck also), and plugs that into the breakdown of the federal mileage reimbursement breakdown in order to come up with a reasonable rate.

Starting here: the federal mileage reimbursement rate for 2019 is \$.58 per mile.

Here are the expense items that the federal reimbursement rate covers:

- fuel
- maintenance (including tires)
- insurance
- license, registration, taxes
- depreciation (the cost to purchase the car)

Now we must determine what percentage of the total rate is for each category shown above in order to single out the fuel alone. Per a research blog found on the internet (<https://companymileage.com/howmileageratedetermined/>) broke down the costs per category as follows (having analyzed (3) Chevrolets: small sedan, mid sedan, and SUV):

fuel = 30%

maintenance and tires = 6%

insurance = 12%

license, registration and taxes = 7%

depreciation = 45%

So 30% of \$.58 per mile is \$.17 per mile reimbursement rate for fuel alone.

Now we must determine what the actual road tour example fuel costs were:

- \$37.00 of fuel used, at \$3.15/gallon, to tour 55 miles.

- \$37.00 divided by 55 miles = \$.67 per mile.

So now we find the difference between \$.67 per mile actual cost and the federal portion being \$.17 per mile = \$.50 per mile; that's what should be added to the fed rate of \$.58.

CONCLUSION: \$1.08 per mile