NEWS RELEASE: July 15, 2011

Weaver Road closing Monday between Ridgecrest and Golden

The Greene County Highway Department will close Weaver Road Monday, July 18, between Ridgecrest Drive and Golden Avenue (Farm Road 135) as part of the county's ongoing Weaver Road widening project.

Contractors with the Highway Department have spent the last several weeks relocating underground utilities along this section of Weaver Road. Beginning Monday, the road will be closed to allow installation a new box culvert near McBride School, demolition of the existing road, and reconstruction of a new, three-lane road with curb and gutter.

The closure is expected to last throughout August. Until then, motorists must use alternate routes. Local traffic will be allowed only for residents within the closure. Notification of the closure is posted on message boards in the area.

An adjacent section of Weaver Road, between Cloverdale and Ridgecrest has been closed since June 6, but will reopen August 1, weather permitting. Construction will continue in the area after the road reopens, and motorists are urged to be attentive and obey all traffic control signs and flagmen.

The \$2.4 million Weaver Road widening project will expand the two-lane road to three lanes, adding a center turn lane for safer left turns into side streets and driveways. The roadway will be realigned to improve sharp curves at Western (Farm Road 131) and Ridgecrest. Curb and gutter and storm inlets will be installed to improve drainage along the roadway. Sidewalks will also be constructed along both sides of Weaver, improving safety for pedestrians, especially near McBride Elementary, Harrison Elementary and Wilson's Creek 5-6 School. The estimated completion date is Dec. 13.

Updates are available on the Greene County Highway Department website, <u>www.greenecountymo.org/highway</u>, under "Road Construction." For more information on the road project, contact Duffy Mooney, Greene County Highway Department Assistant Administrator, 417-831-3591, or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-224-5510.

