

NEWS RELEASE: Feb. 10, 2010

Winter weather delays Battlefield Road reopening

The Greene County Highway Department expects east Battlefield Road to remain closed until May, due to colder and wetter than normal weather conditions.

Battlefield Road, between Woodstock Avenue and Blackman Road, has been closed since late October for road reconstruction. The road was originally scheduled to reopen this month, but rain, snow and extremely cold temperatures since late December have caused significant delays on the project.

“Our contractor has not been able to haul in or place fill dirt on Battlefield Road since December 22,” said Jim Francka, Greene County Highway Department Construction Inspection Supervisor. “With the ongoing weather pattern, we expect that he will lose more working days in February, further delaying the reopening of Battlefield Road.”

Once weather conditions improve, saturated ground conditions will cause further delays as the contractor waits for the worksite to dry out enough to support construction activities.

The construction project includes utility relocation, smoothing hills under the existing roadway, widening Battlefield to three lanes, installation of a sidewalk on the north side and improved drainage.

Duffy Mooney, Greene County Highway Department Assistant Administrator, acknowledged the road improvement project has been an inconvenience to motorists who live near the construction site.

“The weather has definitely not helped this situation,” said Mooney. “We appreciate everyone’s continued patience and cooperation as we wait for conditions to improve. It’s a short-term headache for a long-term benefit, and in the end we’ll have a much better transportation system in place.”

Motorists must continue to use alternate routes. Local access to businesses and properties within the closure section will be maintained.

The next phase of construction will close the intersection of Battlefield and Blackman, allowing the County’s contractor to raise the intersection three to four feet.

Project updates are posted at www.greencountymo.org/highway/.

For more information, contact Duffy Mooney, Greene County Highway Department Assistant Administrator, at 417-829-6536, or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-379-5713.

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