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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Public Works Department - (573) 874-7250

**LEED certification announced for Fire Station #9**

**COLUMBIA, MO (August 11, 2010)** - The city of Columbia announced today that it has been awarded LEED certification on Columbia Fire Station #9, with a Gold rating by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). Completed in 2009, Fire Station #9 at North Providence and Blue Ridge is the city's newest station.

LEED is the USGBC's standard for creating energy and resource efficient buildings, relating to all aspects of design, construction and occupancy. Gold is the second highest level of four possible ratings: Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum. Three other buildings in Columbia have been LEED certified thus far, including the Columbia Public School's Eco Schoolhouse, Columbia College's Missouri Hall and the city's Wabash Station.

"The city of Columbia is committed to being environmental stewards and leading the way toward energy reduction and sustainability in mid-Missouri," said John Glascock, director of Public Works for the city of Columbia.

LEED elements used in the design of the fire station included the use of FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified lumber, recycling of construction waste, use of low-VOC sealants and paints, recycled content for flooring and siding and collecting and cleaning storm water runoff through an on-site rain garden and bio-swale.

The building was designed by the local firm of Peckam and Wright Architects Inc. to achieve LEED certification for energy use, lighting, water and material use, as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. LEED was established for market leaders to design & construct buildings that protect and save precious resources while also making good economic sense.

The U.S. Green Building Council is a nonprofit membership organization whose vision is a sustainable built environment within a generation. Its membership includes corporations, builders, universities, government agencies and other nonprofit organizations. Since USGBC's founding in 1993, the Council has grown to more than 18,000 member companies and organizations, a comprehensive family of LEED® green building rating systems, an expansive educational offering, the industry's popular Greenbuild International Conference and Expo ([www.greenbuildexpo.org](http://www.greenbuildexpo.org)) and a network of 78 local chapters, affiliates and organizing groups. For more information, visit [www.usgbc.org/LEED](http://www.usgbc.org/LEED).

The city is working on LEED certification for the new City Hall, which is currently under construction, and Fire Station #7, which is pending certification.

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serves as a communications link between the city of Columbia's municipal government and the citizens. The Public Communications Office coordinates several programs that are designed to link citizens with their city government.

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