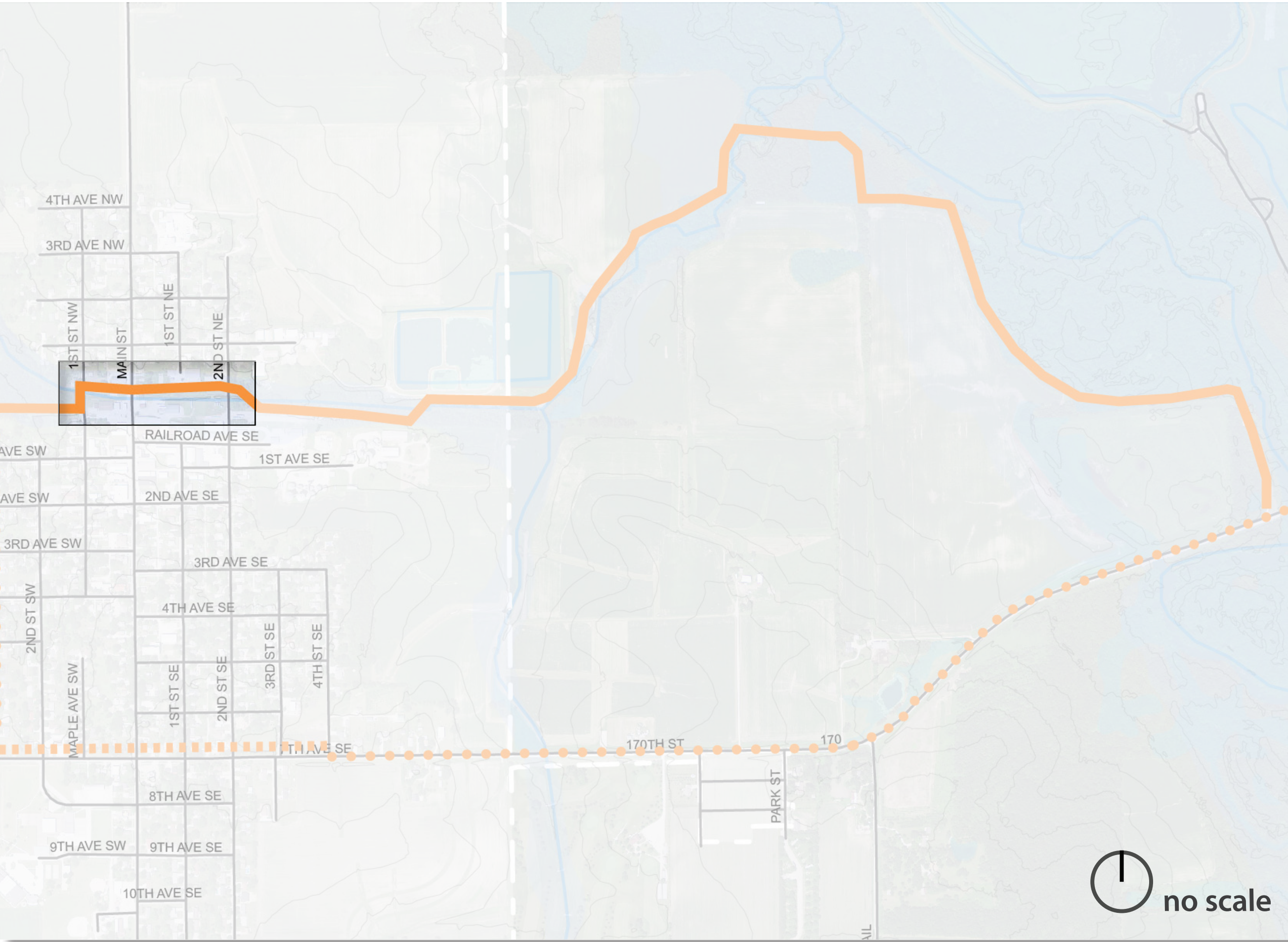


Sweet Water Creek and Trail Enhancements

Sweet Water Creek emerges from under the First Street bridge flowing east through town as a channelized drainage ditch with weedy banks. The residents of Tripoli want to restore the creek to a more natural look by grading a gentler slope to the bank and mowing the grass down to the edge. In addition, they would like to plant the edge with native plants, such as blue flag iris. The design team also suggests making the stream more meandering while grading the slope. This would aid in the creek looking more natural. The creek could also be a useful tool for outdoor classroom demonstrations since most of the restoration will take place on public land, which includes a new park adjacent to what will be the Sweet Water Welcome Center and trailhead. The proximity of the creek to the proposed trail is an incentive to beautify the creek, thus creating a positive trail experience. The trail closely follows the creek until the it empties into the Wapsipinicon River.



Map Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, "Natural Resources Geographic Information Systems Library," accessed April 2012.



Existing Sweet Water Creek as a channelized creek and vacant area adjacent to the former Guppy's location



Proposed Sweet Water Creek improvements and new park area



Existing 2nd Street Bridge and Sweet Water Creek



Proposed on road crossing to Sweet Water Trail

Tripoli

Sweet Water Creek and Trail Enhancements

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Iowa Department of Transportation

Trees Forever

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