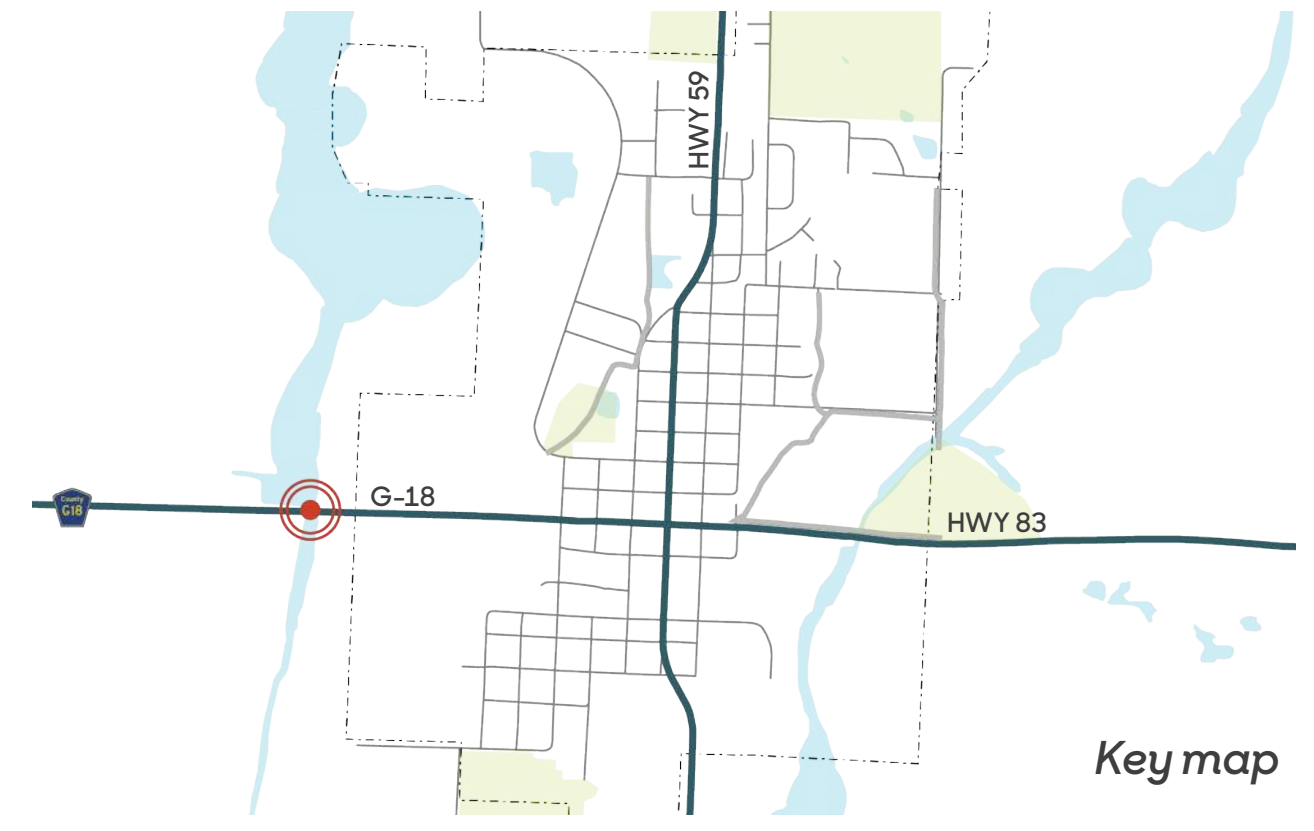


G18 Water Access

While the East Branch of the West Nishnabotna River is accessible from Edgington Memorial Park, the West Branch does not have a designated water access point. The Avoca visioning committee described this stretch of the river as a unique recreation experience north of the confluence of the East and West Branches. An existing pull-off on the northeast side of the intersection of the West Branch and County Highway G18 (Tamarack Avenue) is a prime location for a water access point. The existing pull-off from the highway slopes steeply down to a level gravel turnaround, and seems to double as a farm field access drive. Proposed improvements include paving a tapered turn-lane and access drive down to a small parking area. An asphalt trail would lead to a small picnic and seating area adjacent to a stair-stepped canoe/kayak launch point. The launch point would be constructed with 6x6-inch plastic timbers and gravel per the Iowa DNR's Stair-Step Launch design. Necessary agreements would need to be acquired for the parking area within the adjacent farmland.

continued on Board 12b



G18 Water Access

RDG Planning & Design

LAs: Anne Machian, PLA, ASLA; Bruce Niedermyer, PLA, ASLA, LEED AP
Intern: Dani Hodgson

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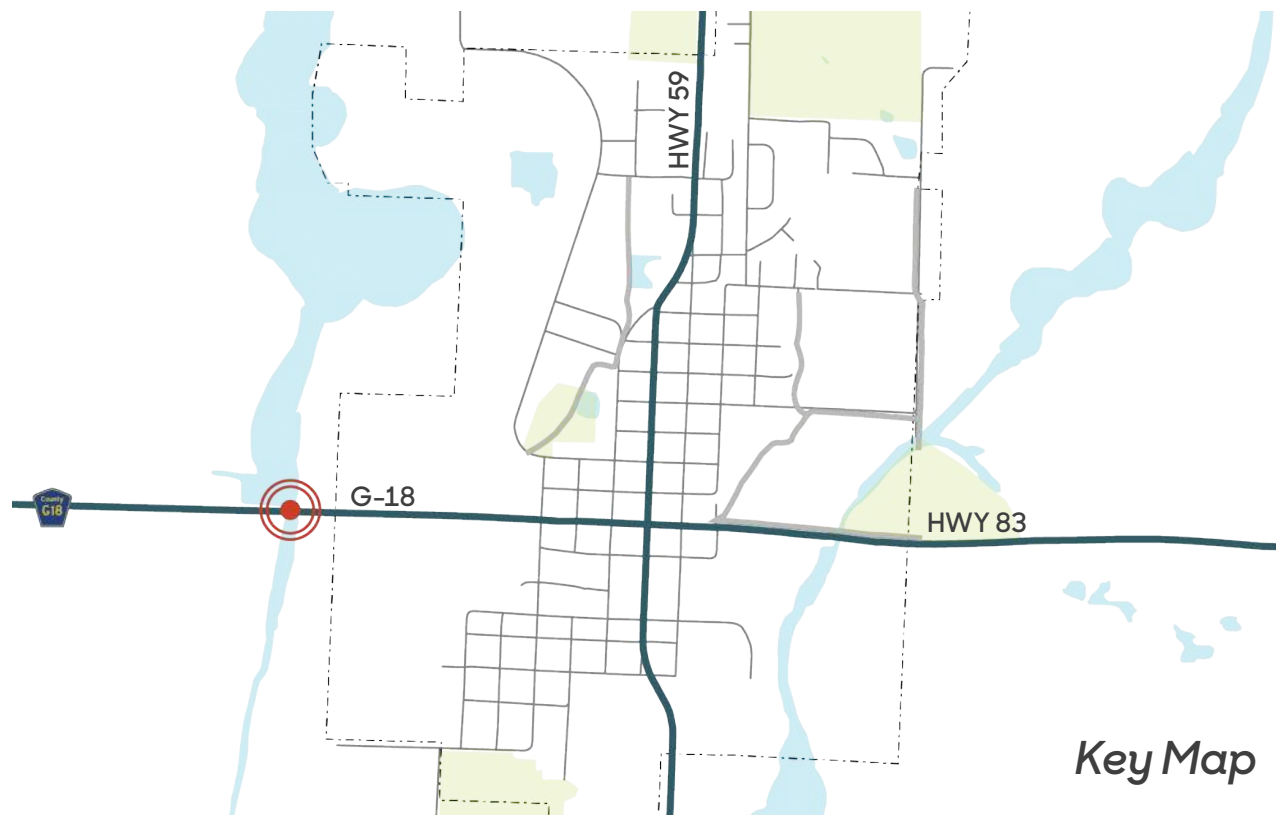
Solidifying this informal water access into an accessible amenity will help Avoca capitalize on its connection to the river. An additional launch point will encourage more residents to enjoy the natural landscape and give them the opportunity to support a healthier lifestyle. A greater focus on recreation along the Nishnabotna can create a draw for visitors and emphasize the identity of Avoca as hub for water access.



Existing view looking east from the G18 bridge



Existing view looking west from the northeast access path



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