



Granite Creek Corridor

Presented by Kirsty Everson and Chuck Budinger

Granite Creek Corridor

- The Granite Creek Corridor is a beautiful stretch of natural habitat that passes through downtown Prescott. It has a trail, built and maintained by the city of Prescott and gives access to restaurants, shopping, events, and schools.



Granite Creek


Photo and article by Cindy Barks
from the Daily Courier in Prescott.



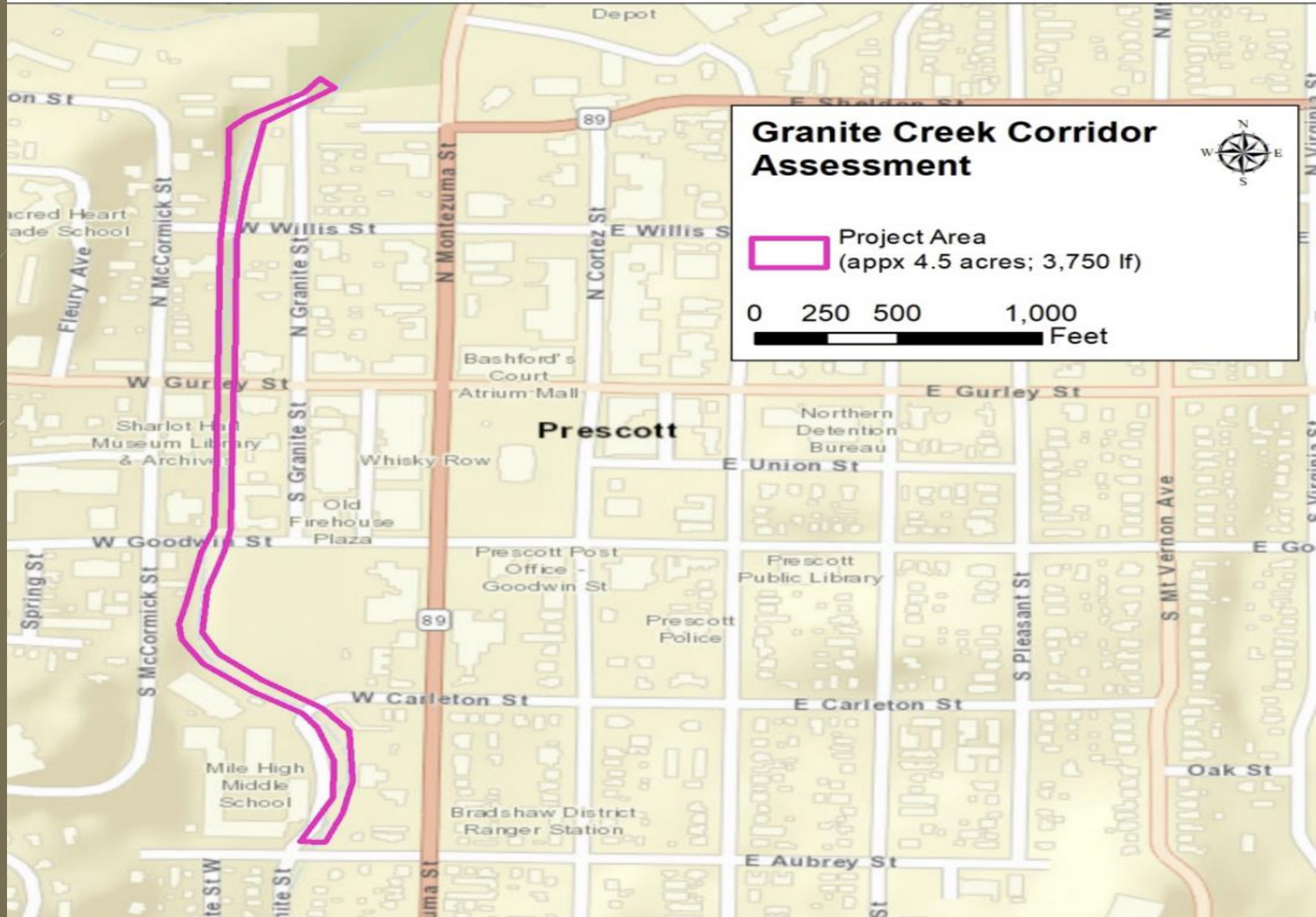
Prescott City Councilwoman Billie Orr, left, and City Manager Michael Lamar, right, walk along a section of Granite Creek near the Goodwin Street underpass. A new city committee is looking into ways to revitalize the Greenways Trails that border downtown-area sections of Granite and Miller creeks. The two creeks have been mostly dry in recent months, but currently have intermittent pools of water. (Cindy Barks/Courier)

Granite Creek Corridor Assessment



 Project Area
(appx 4.5 acres; 3,750 lf)

0 250 500 1,000
 Feet



Issues with Granite creek corridor



The overgrowth of invasive vegetation which restricts water flow and creates an unwelcoming environment, and storm water quality



Underutilization of the trail because of reputation or a lack of awareness of its existence



The need to enhance signage, lighting, access points, and overall appearance.

Views from the bridges over the creek



Objectives for the Corridor

- Clean up and restore the beauty and native landscape of the corridor, allowing the riparian habitat to thrive and water quality to improve
- Improve the usability of the trail in the downtown corridor, allowing access to all members of the community and enhancing safety so families with young children or patrons hiking alone will feel secure.
- Further allow the community to impart Prescott history and naturalist education to its patrons
- Reduce the risk of flood conditions for the properties along the creek



Committee make up



Community members ranging from business owners to volunteers




Prescott College



City of Prescott personnel from the Parks and Recs division, Mayor and city managers office and the engineering department



Flow Study by Natural Channel Designs, Inc

- A limited geomorphic and ecological assessment of the stream was conducted to determine channel dimensions, current trends (widening or incision), riparian vegetation condition and specific areas for improvement
- 

Flow is blocked by sediment, artificial structures and overgrowth



Clean up and restore the beauty and native landscape of the corridor, allowing the riparian habitat to thrive and water quality to improve





Parks and Recs and transportation

- City personnel worked together to find solutions to improve the creek using funds already in place by altering the scope to be all inclusive.
- This fence was blocking light from coming into the creek and was over built for fall protection.



Parks and Recs and Transportation

- City personnel removed the overbuilt structure and replaced it with a proper scale that added to the appeal of the natural habitat.

Parks and Recs and the citizens



Tree overgrowth of invasive species was a problem for overall creek health.

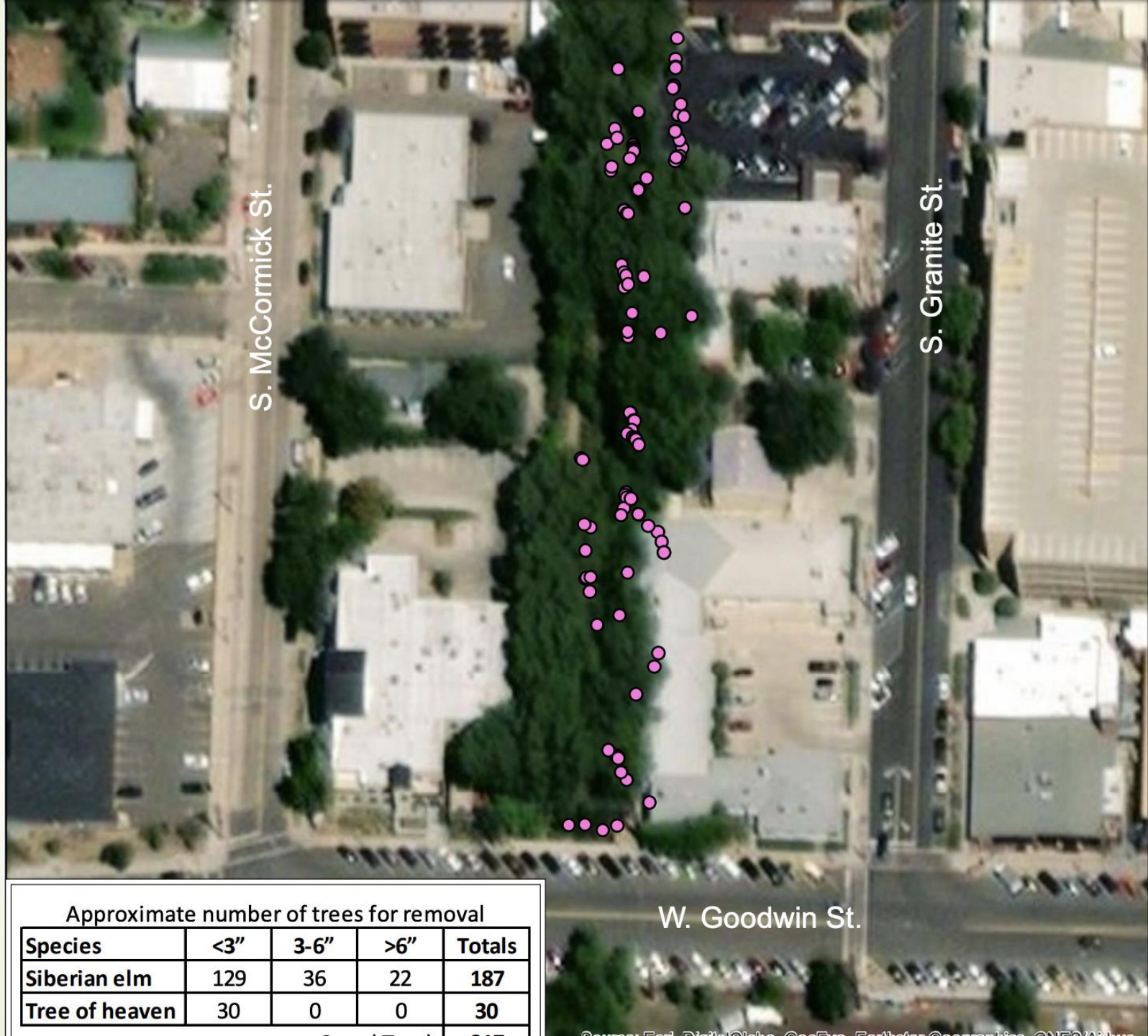


Local landscape companies heard about our project and volunteered a day of their time.

This vital help with skilled labor carrying their own insurance removed burden from the city.

Restore Native Habitat

- Here was a map produced to show larger invasive species.



Approximate number of trees for removal				
Species	<3"	3-6"	>6"	Totals
Siberian elm	129	36	22	187
Tree of heaven	30	0	0	30

Partnership

Photo and article by Cindy Barks
from the Daily Courier in Prescott



Kyle Littleton, left, and Tristan O'Neill of the TerraSole landscaping firm work to remove non-native trees along Granite Creek Wednesday, Dec. 19. The two were among the workers who local firms TerraSole and Prescott Landscape Professionals volunteered to help with the City of Prescott project near Goodwin Street. (Cindy Barks/Courier)

Water Quality



Storm water run off from streets enters the creek through culverts and overland flow.

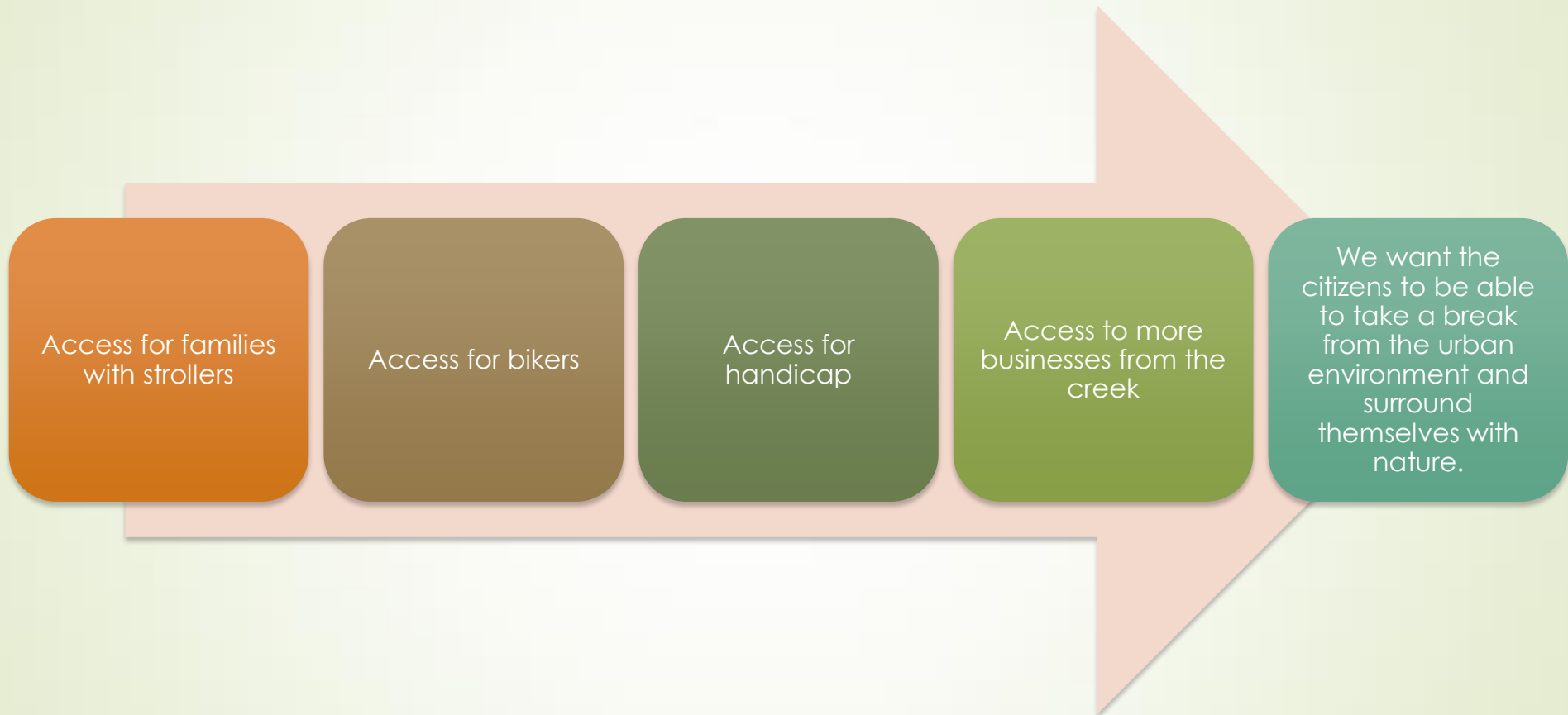


Riparian buffers need to be placed to filter water and trash prior to it entering the creek.



Opportunities to absorb water through permeable landscape would improve water quality by reducing flow over the streets.

Access



Nature has been shown to improve long term and short term mental and physical health

Growth and Repurpose



Growth is an inevitable factor in our world. With populations reaching over Seven billion we need smart growth.



The city of Prescott is no different. We have a booming tourist economy. With that more hotels are needed. A new hotel is working on moving to Prescott. They have set their sites next to our creek.



Instead of fighting the growth we are working on making the growth work for us by helping define and restore the habitat, create amenities for citizens and reduce the overall water usage of the park that adjoins the trail and hotel.



This process included the city, the hotel, APS, Prescott college and citizen volunteers.

Growth and repurpose

- The site will host
 - the farmers market
 - The community garden
 - A splash pad
 - Common area near the creek that will offer more area for nature education focused on the kids.

Business Support



El Gato Azul, a restaurant, shares a border with the creek.



Support from the owner Barry Barbe has helped us make sure the things we do in the creek will be met with support from business owners along the creek.



Mr. Barbe has also teamed up with the Chamber of Commerce to form the sub committee on beautification.

Business Support



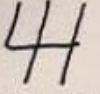
Brands

Price
10¢

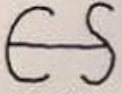
Joshua Tree National Monument



Smith
1850's



Coombs
1901



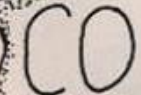
Smith-
Gilman
1858



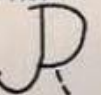
McHanev
1879



Swarthout
Early 1900



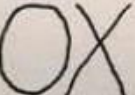
Barker
1908-27



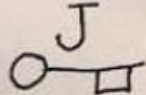
Ryan
Early
1900



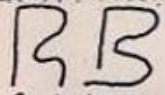
Wm Shay
1908



Coombs
1907



Kee
1928



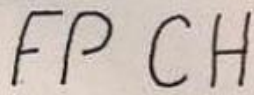
Bolster
1923



Covington
1916



McKinney
Duncan
1912

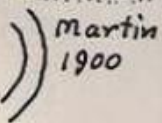


Pollard
1900

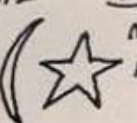
Carpenter
Hamilton
Early 1900



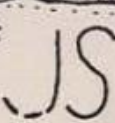
Antonio
1850



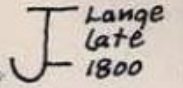
Martin
1900



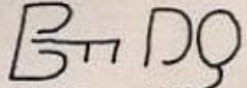
Myers
1906



Talmadge
1912-1940



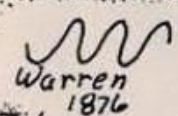
Lange
late
1800



1917 1919
Keys



Stocker
1930



Warren
1876

by Lucile Weight

Copyright 1975

Beautification Committee

- Trail markings for the city were proposed for all of the city trails
- Signage for historical reference along the creek are being for designed
- These are an example not actual

Beautification Committee

- ▶ Murals will replace graffiti covered concrete with nature scenes



Photo from OUTDOOR murals | Nature Mural Artist in Residence Vancouver Christian School

Education



Add signage that teaches about Prescott history, an example would be highlighting the whiskey row tree that held the whiskey shared by the early miners.



Plant life identifiers



Conservation tips (did you know series)

Conclusion



Working as a team and looking out for the interests of all parties can move a project forward



Everyone benefits



The environment can not be last consideration.