

"To define humans is to define the envelopes, the life support systems... In the same way as a space suite or a space station is entirely artificially and carefully designed, so are all the envelopes (the spheres to use his term, "spherology" being the world he gives to his endeavor) that constitute the fragile life supports of humans... We are enveloped, entangled, surrounded; we are never outside without having recreated another more artificial, more fragile, more engineered envelope. We move from envelopes to envelopes, from folds to folds, never from one private sphere to the great Outside" (Latour 2008)

"The urban micro-foam can only be understood in its real-surreal spatial constitution if one sees in it a meta-collector that accumulates spaces of assembly and nonassembly. The actual function of the metropolis is clearly to guarantee the neighborly coexistence of centers and noncenters - not in the form of a supercenter but as an agglomeration of stacking of discrete types of spatial powers in the form of the type collectors, business, housing units, and shaped surfaces under open skies. The meta-collection that arises from the current city has nothing to do with people, who can be assembled or isolated. It refers to places- that are total space inventions-in which people experience, or not, the chance of assembly and communication." (Peter Sloterdijk)

RESILIENCE THROUGH DIVERSITY
 "Modularity, versatility, and adaptability are prized features that need to be prioritized in an uncertain and fast-evolving world. Diverse systems with many connections and scales are more resilient in the face of external shocks than systems built simply for efficiency - throughput maximization driven to the extreme results in fragility."
 (Ken Webster, The Circular Economy: A Wealth of Flows)
 The functionalist CIAM principles come to life in the model city of Bijlmer. It was a triumph of simple efficiency in times of stability. The movement could not foresee the heightened efficiency as impediment to fostering complex diversity needed for resilience in the unstable times to come. With our proposal, we aim to address the resulting undefined and fragile site by preparing it for the possibility of a new, nimble and savvy economy to emerge. An economy built on the circular princi-

ples of long-lasting design, maintenance, repair, reuse, remanufacturing, refurbishing, and recycling.

FROM UNDEFINED HOMOGENEITY TO DEFINITION OF DIVERSE CHARACTER AREAS
 The existing study area together with the project site comprise one homogeneous territory devoid of clear character. On the north side, the study area is demarcated by the raised karspeldreef, cutting off the site from other neighborhoods and contributing to the current isolation and homogeneity resulting from poor connectivity. The iconic Bijlmer slab buildings are closed at the ground level, further limiting the potential to engage any activity at the street level and to foster interaction between people. The undefined overabundance of open space is another factor contributing to the site's homogeneity. Despite being pleasantly green, the open space is currently seldom used, and idle, neither connecting nor defining space. Its vastness is also a burden to the municipality, requiring constant upkeep.
 The study area can be made more resilient by being viewed as one networked system with clearly defined character areas, mutually benefiting from proximity to one another. At the same time the character areas will maintain clear and independent identities that will help to strengthen their respective communities. We've identified three character areas:

- 1. Foam of Production - project site**
 The main objective of the project site proposal is to be maximally porous to serve as a connector.
- 2. Productive Green - the central space**
 Overabundance of open green space is seldom used but requires significant upkeep by the municipality. Our strategy is to rent out or sell the land for more productive use.
 To increase the productivity of the existing neighborhood, we propose to reconfigure the ground level of the existing slab typology to accommodate new spaces for work and a kindergarten as well as accommodate the few businesses that already exist in the neighborhood. The newly animated ground level will work in tandem with the new development' activities and will be supported by a more vibrant internal street.
 The existing ample greenery surrounding the slabs, while providing a pleasant atmosphere, is currently underused and is a burden to the municipality. As an ini-

tial measure, we propose that the greenery is partially converted to allotment gardens, which will reduce the strain on the municipality and redirect funding to the proposed community programming in the project site's main public square.

3. Densifier - southern-most section of the study area
 This land is well connected to the city street network and in the future, will become more valuable with the completion of the park in the location of the existing Gaasperdammerweg. High-rise high density approach to this site can help subsidize an organizing community body that will organize a market and other community activities in the community public space on the project site.

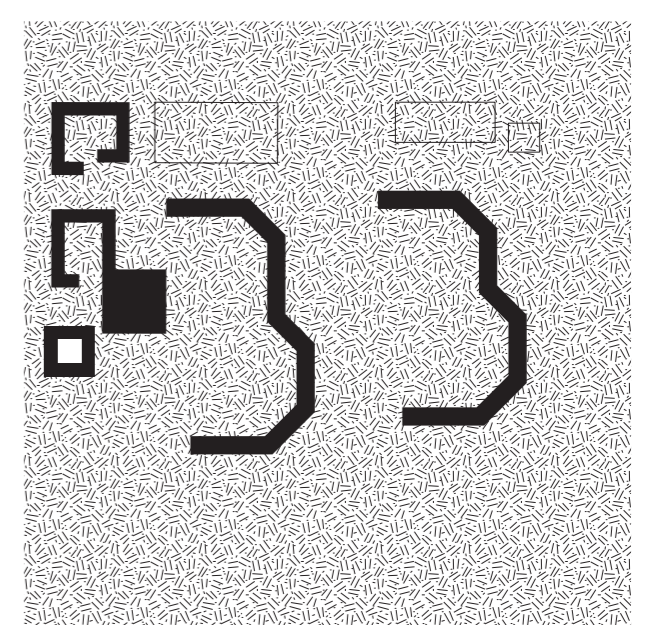
FOAM OF PRODUCTION
 Land use and access over ownership "Freedom, mobility, porosity, generosity should form the foundation of any discussion on densification. To densify carefully, to extend existing situations, to not waste land, to apply a superimposition strategy, to exploit proximity - case by case- to agglomerate, to expand, to add" (Laccaton & Bassal)
 The project site is a porous irregular grid, parceled for different scales of development. This strategy of parceling will help to diversify the kinds of stakeholders involved in the development of the project site, provide different kinds of spatial experiences, and exploit the various typologies' proximity to each other. Each developer will be obliged to facilitate rentable work space facilities as part of their development. The large internal open courtyards will be built by the developers and rented out as allotment workspaces, either as extensions of workshops in adjacent building or spaces for exhibiting work. Similarly, the allotment workspaces may be rented by people in the surrounding neighborhoods. Outdoor workspaces will give an extension to the work place and help to encourage exchange of ideas and sharing of tools and knowledge.
 A strip of larger parcels running along the existing elevated karspeldreef is designated for higher density construction by larger developers. This higher density development will create a new street front and serve as a noticeable landmark of the changing neighborhood. The larger scale building will also provide public access to the lower level of the site.

Medium-size developers, cooperatives, and individuals will be able to develop projects on the other available parcels toward the existing internal street, as determined by the masterplan. Pockets between the plots will be reserved for playgrounds that will be managed by the cooperatives.

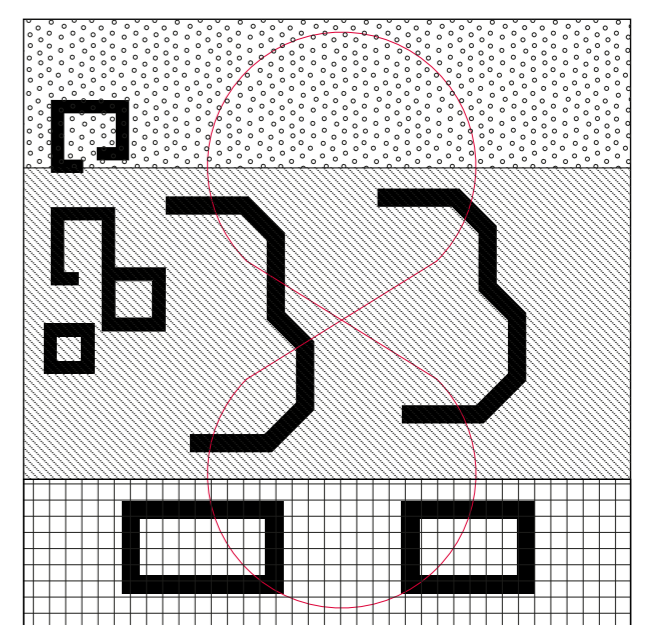
Connectivity / Freedom of Mobility and Access

The neighborhood is conceived as a series of to-be-continued situations. Porosity / open spaces / pockets provide for maximum areas of exchange.
 Those living in the existing surrounding neighborhood will benefit from a range of incentives to share in the activities of the new neighbors by having access to subsidized work places in the new neighborhood and being able to freely access the open common-use spaces. The existing inhabitants will also be able to participate in the activities taking place in the community center, plaza and along the animated internal promenade. New opportunities, resilient economy and the possibility to access space will encourage the existing residents to remain in the neighborhood as their families grow and they see clear economic opportunities to relocate within the neighborhood without breaking ties with the community.

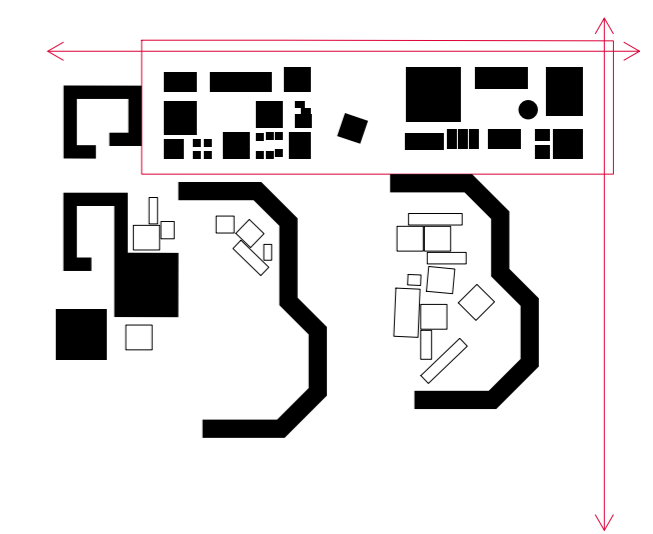
Architectural typologies and Technologies
 Living, working and productivity will be given a place and opportunities to thrive inside new building typologies that provide flexible use of space that can accommodate different scenarios.
 The new architecture is based on the circular principles, which are: modularity, typisation of members, exchangeability of façade elements, possibility to disassemble the entire structure without damage. We use steel and timber frame structures, as an alternative to standard concrete solutions. In contrast to monotony of the historic structures we propose diversity of residential/working typologies, which reflect on diversity of demands:
 - high-rise, which utilizes the gallery type of distribution
 - mid-rise buildings with central core
 - low-rise; row and detached houses
 Each typology provides variety of unit sizes - both in plan and in section. In some units we propose to give extra height in order to give residents possibility to expand their apartment within, by building mezzanines.



EXISTING LANUSE: GENERIC UNDEFINED

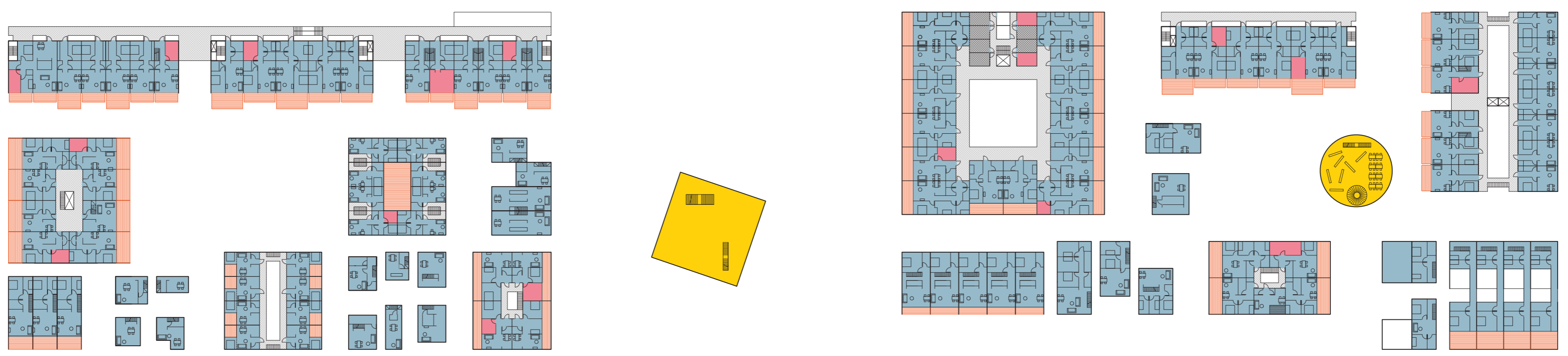


PROPOSED LAND USE: GIVING DEFINITION

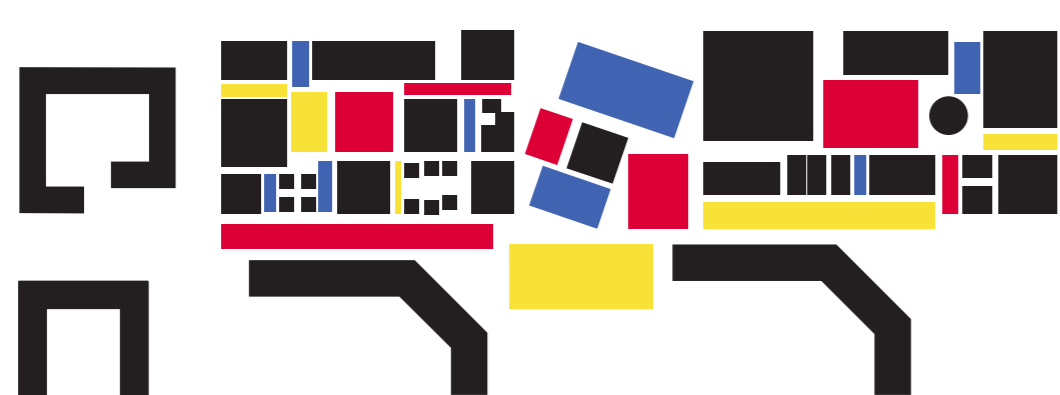


ACCESS

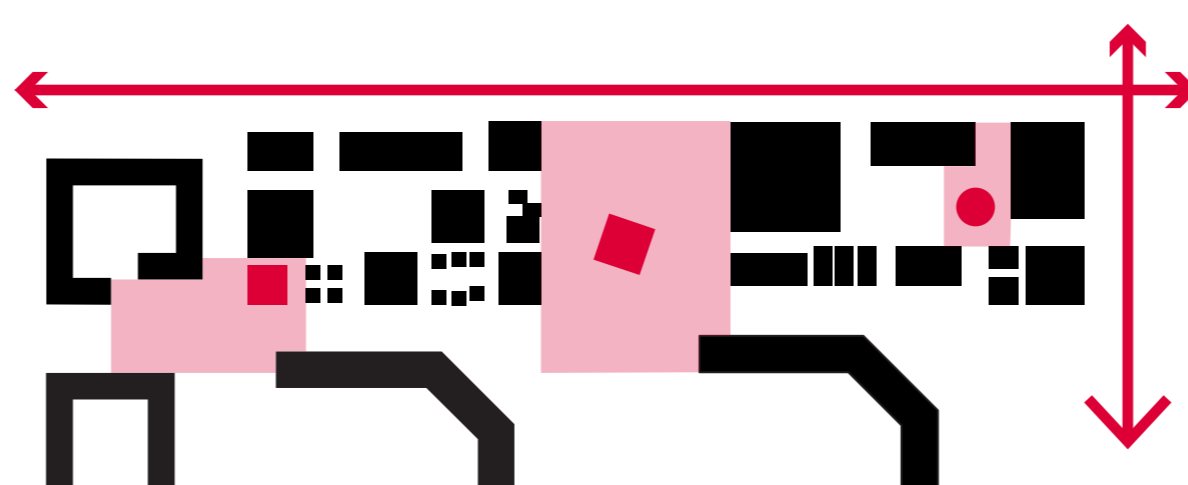




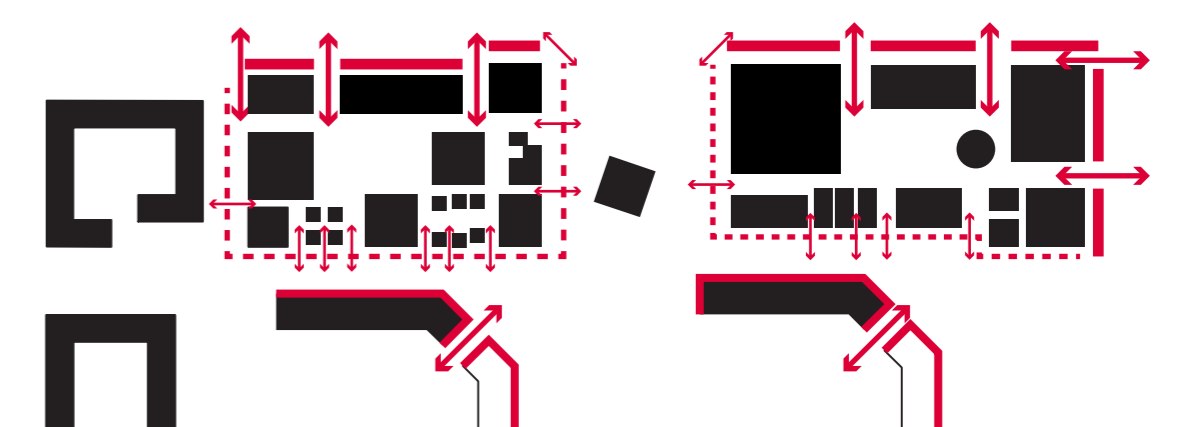
0 50m  TYPICAL FLOOR PLANS



URBAN FOAM



NEW CENTERS



ACTIVE FRONTS