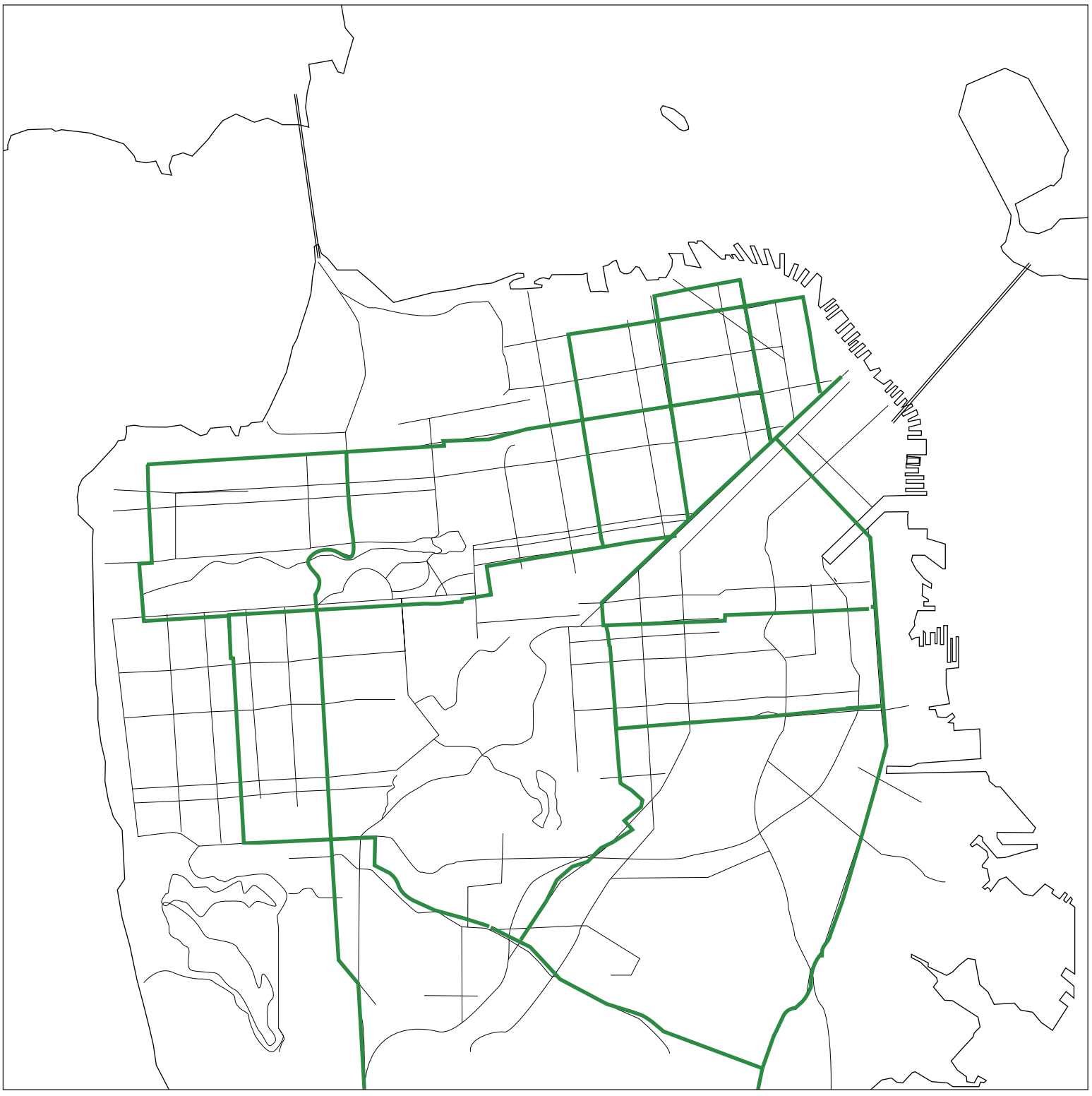
BOULEVARD INVERTED:

URBAN PERFORMANCE MODULE

Mixology Architecture

Jef Biesinger

The fundamental idea of this project is to think of the street in a new way. Bringing choices not currently available to a place with separate but equal conditions. What if we allow a street, parallel to a busy thoroughfare, to contain all of the choices that a typical street cannot provide? One street that is free of cars, noise, and pollution. This separation allows cars to move quickly on their territory without conflicting with the other choices of buses and bikes.

This car free street is an opportunity to bring all of the other choices together into one place to allow a community to interact. This community oriented street contains: express bus lanes within safety barriers; a separate lane for bikes, walking, etc; and the remainder of the street is used to create various types of public spaces. To maximize the use of this social space and mass transit, the adjoining buildings contain high-density community-based housing, a rare option in the city. The zoning of these buildings is a mix-use, potentially composed of living, dining, drinking, shopping, office space, education, cultural, entertainment, exercise, etc. It is a convenient, vertical mini-city, which reduces or eliminates commuting.

Boulevard Inverted inserts this new urban model into the city allowing every citizen access to a dynamic social space. It is a space that expands the sidewalk with new potential, creating a symbiotic relationship of architecture, public space, and transportation. It is a street that attracts people from private isolation to immerse in public interaction, creating a real social-networking place.