

The connecting side streets between the Golden Mile and the waterfront are at present under-utilized as pedestrian links between two major attractions in Wellington.

Use as shortcuts for vehicular traffic and as parking facilities has left the side streets as low quality public spaces dominated by vehicles. At present vehicular traffic is equally distributed among the side streets and there is no street hierarchy or identification of primary and secondary connections, Grey Street being the only exception.

Illustration below:

The bar chart below illustrates the quality of the pedestrian linkages along the streets between city and water.

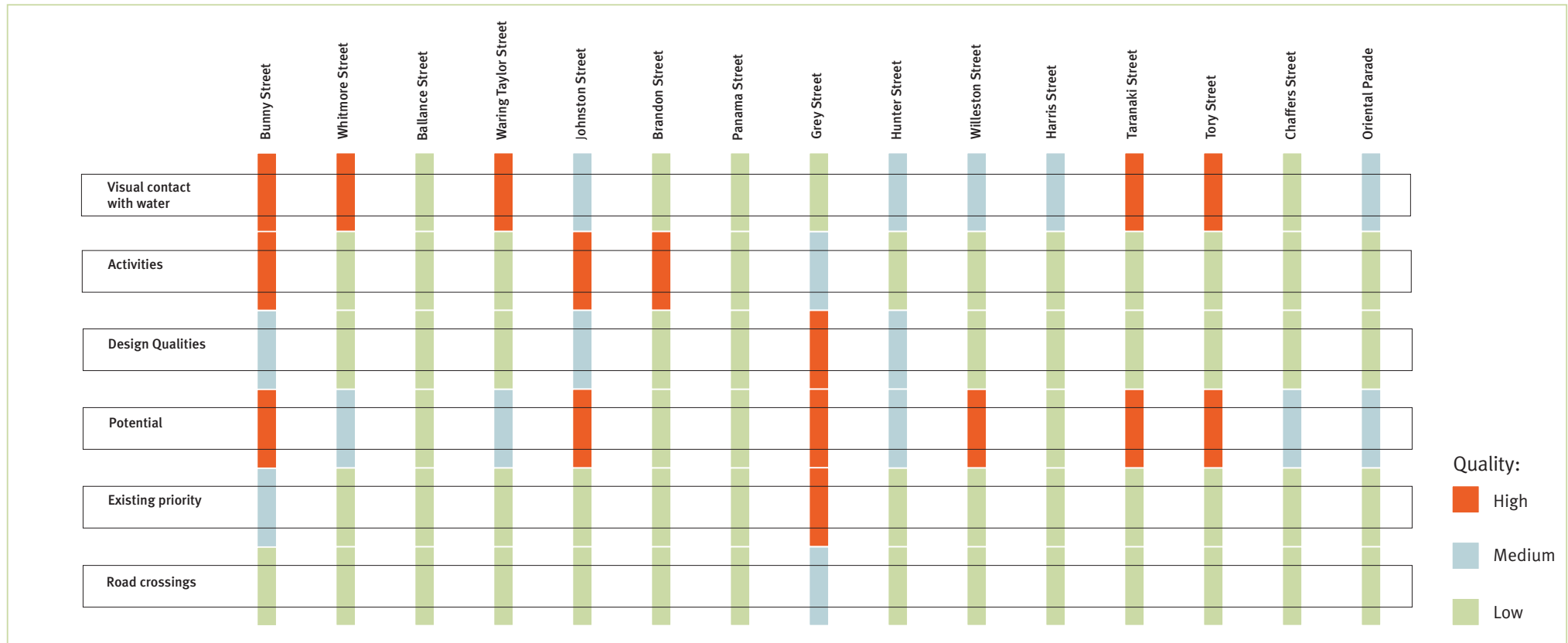
The following criterias for pedestrian linkages have been identified :

- visual contact with the water
- amount of activity taking place in each street
- physical quality of street design (paving, lighting etc.)
- potential for development
- existing pedestrian priorities
- quality of road crossings to the waterfront

Illustration on the opposite page:

Pedestrian usage of the connecting side streets points to a low pedestrian quality in most side streets. Generally, where improvements have been made, as in Grey Street and at the City-to-Sea Bridge, these facilities are preferred and used. The most used side streets are Grey Street, Hunter Street and Mercer Street, while the most used crossings are at Queens Wharf and at the City-to-Sea Bridge. All crossings along Cable Street are under-used.

In order to achieve an integrated waterfront more activity needs to take place in the side streets to attract more visitors. Better crossings to the Waterfront are also needed as only two of the crossings are working at an optimal level at present.





Key links to waterfront

Bunny Street connects the Parliamentary Precinct with the Railway Station and the waterfront.



Whitmore Street enjoys an open view towards the waterfront.



Johnston Street connects Midland Park / Lambton Quay with the waterfront.



Grey Street is the most lively connecting street with several outdoor cafes.



Willeston Street has an open view towards the waterfront and a short distance to Lambton Quay.



Harris Street is at present under-utilized but has potential in terms of Civic Square and the activities here.



City-to-Sea-Bridge is a direct link to the water from Civic Square.



Taranaki Street is vehicle dominated but enjoys an open view towards the waterfront.



Tory Street is a more intimate street leading directly to Te Papa.

