

This initiative has enjoyed tremendous success not only by reducing contributions to greenhouse gas levels, but the use of cleaner burning fuels is also expected to reduce fleet operating costs. A study of a special oil filtration unit is being conducted to analyze the operational benefits of natural gas. Finally, the high-profile Greening the Hill logos on the back of the buses are an excellent way to emphasize the House's environmental commitment.

4.2.2 Task Force on Cycling

In June 1991, a Task Force on Cycling was established to examine barriers to cycling to work in the Parliamentary Precinct. The Task Force, comprised of House employees and Member's staff, delivered recommendations to enhance opportunities for cycling to work at the House of Commons. The need for increased and improved bicycle racks and improved security lighting around the racks was identified by the Task Force. The cost of this equipment is as follows:

Figure 6: Cost of Bicycle Racks and Enhanced Lighting in West Block Courtyard

	ACTUAL TO DATE
Installation Costs for Bicycle Racks	\$5,700
Cost to Enhance Lighting	2,600
Total Start-Up Costs	\$8,300

Although there are no direct savings, these measures have encouraged bicycle commuting by employees, staff, and Members of Parliament. Environmentally, fewer resources are consumed by the production of bicycles than automobiles; their use does not produce harmful emissions; their operation is more economical than automobiles; and they improve fitness through exercise.

4.3 Greening the Inventory

Greening the Inventory, commenced in August 1990, is a planned initiative by the Materiel Management Branch of the House of Commons to ensure that only environmentally friendly products are kept in supply. Greening the Inventory is a continuous process, with more ecologically responsible products being added as they become available in the marketplace.

Substantial savings have been achieved in the area of stationery products. Improved quality and increased availability of recycled paper has enabled the House of Commons to purchase primarily recycled stationery products for areas of greatest use. To date, 30% of House of Commons stationery inventory is composed of environmentally responsible products.