Joel Hommes
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www.washcyclelaundry.com
30 hotel rooms
600 gym towels
12-15 fraternity brothers
Gabriel Mandujano doesn’t worry about rising gasoline prices at Wash Cycle Laundry, which he launched late last year.

“Sometimes we’re the happy ones when gas prices go up,” Mandujano said with a wry smile. “I know it’s tough on a lot of people, but it proves the business case.”

His business case, that is: “Eikka’s elevated sense from an environmental perspective, but today’s also a lot more cost-effective on delivering goods in downtown Philadelphia.”

He rattles off a few instances: His four employees don’t need commercial driver’s licenses or car insurance; they do not incur parking tickets; and fixing flat bicycle tires or broken chains is far less expensive than maintaining a fleet of trucks. A delivery cycle can pull as much as 200 pounds of laundry per bike in the 40-pound trailer.

To learn more about Gabriel Mandujano’s aspirations for handling Philadelphia’s laundry needs by bicycle, go to www.philly.com/business

Gabriel Mandujano’s Pak-a-Roots enterprise is pedal-powered laundry service.

There’s figurative sweating, as in the fretting that goes on in the lives of small business owners, a wary-fled club of risk-takers.

Then there’s real sweating, as in the perspiring that occurred in abundance during last week’s heavy, oppressive blanket of stinky weather.

That’s the kind Gabriel Mandujano likes a lot, because it leads to clothes and treks in need of cleaning. And that’s where he’s ready to ride to the rescue.

The “cycle” is the name of his company, Wash Cycle Laundry, refers to the two-wheeled variety. In a city that already offers food delivery by bicycle, as well as recycling pickup and even police protection, Mandujano sees

A clean and green niche

Towards a Sustainable Philadelphia
Wash Cycle Laundry recently entered into a discount pricing agreement with the purchasing department and is now a “preferred contract supplier” at UPenn.