

# SMILE, DRIVERS!

## Three red-light cameras for Whitchurch-Stouffville

BY SEAN PEARCE  
spearse@yrmg.com

A red light enforcement camera could be coming soon to a Whitchurch-Stouffville intersection near you.

Members of York Region's transportation services committee gave the green light to install 20 red light cameras at intersections throughout the region, with three of them destined for Whitchurch-Stouffville — all along Woodbine Avenue on the municipality's west side.

Pending approval at this month's regional council meeting, staff will move to complete the necessary agreements and have the camera infrastructure installed with the aim of starting the program this summer.

### BREAK EVEN - AT LEAST

Some committee members questioned why certain intersections, such as Yonge Street and Davis Drive in Newmarket and Yonge and Bathurst Street in East Gwillimbury, were omitted from the list, while others, such as The Queensway South and Metro Road South/Morton Avenue in Georgina and Hwy. 7 and Bullock Drive in Markham, were included.

The various sites were selected based upon the number of right-angle, or T-bone, collisions that occurred and to ensure a reasonable geographic distribution, transportation commissioner Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas and traffic management and intelligent transportation services director Steven Kemp explained.

Intersections poised to experience prolonged periods of construction or that recently had changes imposed to the signal timing were disqualified from consideration.

In any case, York Region chairperson Bill Fisch urged his colleagues to accept the locations selected by staff based on a thorough review of the data, rather than picking and choosing sites by virtue of anecdotal evidence and personal opinion.

"We've only got 20 out of 1,000 intersections, so we've got to do an objective analysis," Mr. Fisch said. "We don't have 200 of these to play with ... They're very expensive."

Indeed, between agreements, pur-

### HAVE YOUR SAY

► What do you think of red-light cameras in York Region? E-mail letters to the editor to [jmason@yrmg.com](mailto:jmason@yrmg.com)

chasing the necessary equipment and court expenses, the fledgling program is expected to cost \$3.7 million over two years.

The program could bring in up to \$4.5 million in fine revenue during that time and should, at the very least, break even, regional staff has suggested.

Other committee members again brought up the idea of having dummy cameras installed at troublesome intersections around the region in an attempt to fool red-light runners into stopping.

Ms Llewellyn-Thomas advised against dummy cameras, as the mountings and other infrastructure actually account for the lion's share of the price, while the cameras themselves are relatively inexpensive.

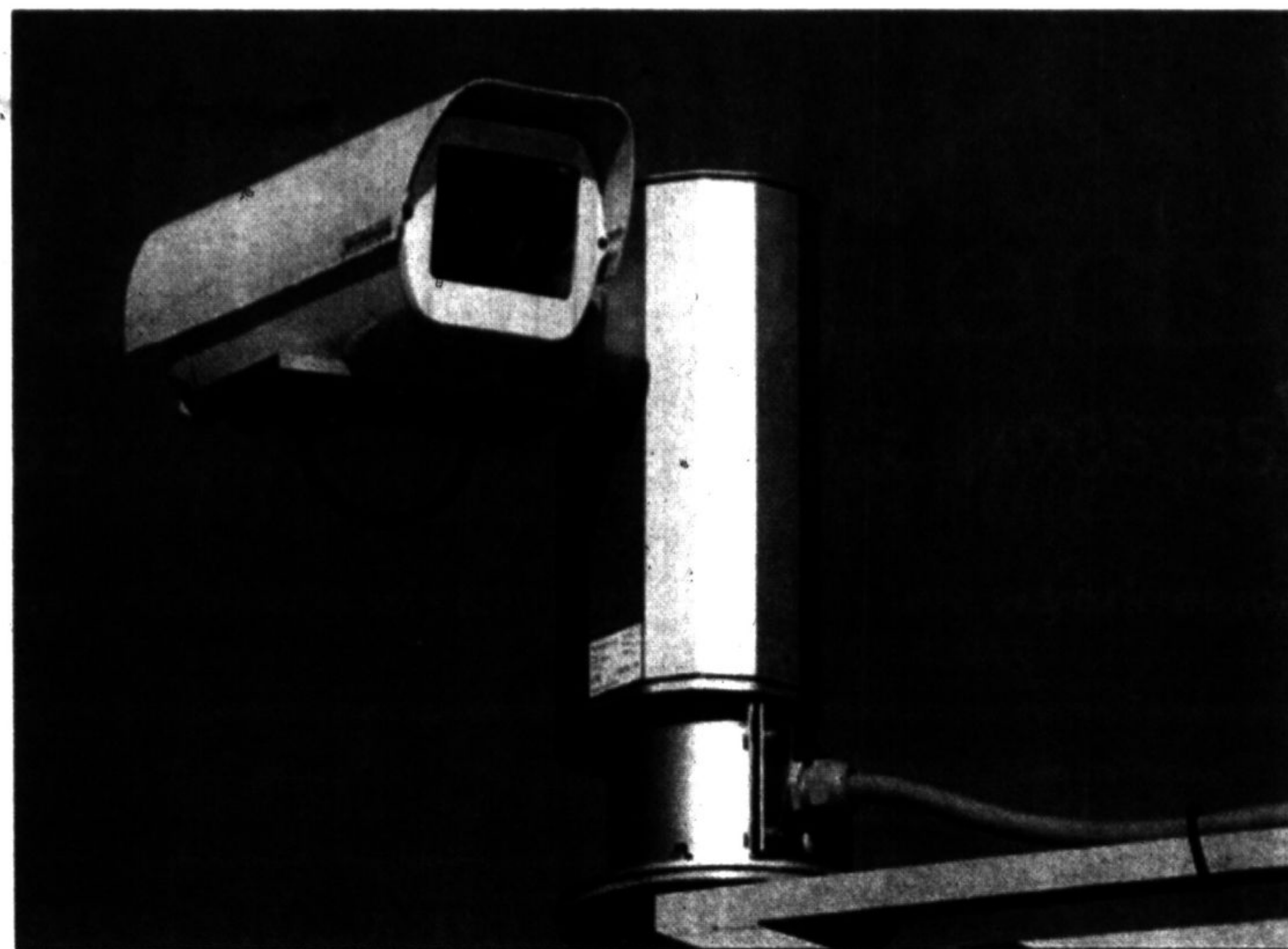
*'We've only got 20 out of 1,000 intersections, so we've got to do an objective analysis. We don't have 200 of these to play with ... They're very expensive.'*

As such, she suggested the region wait to see how the first 20 locations perform before looking to expand.

"We want to be sure that it's a cost-effective program," she said. "Once we have that data, we'll be in a better position to say if we should add more locations or not."

### NO DUMMY CAMERAS

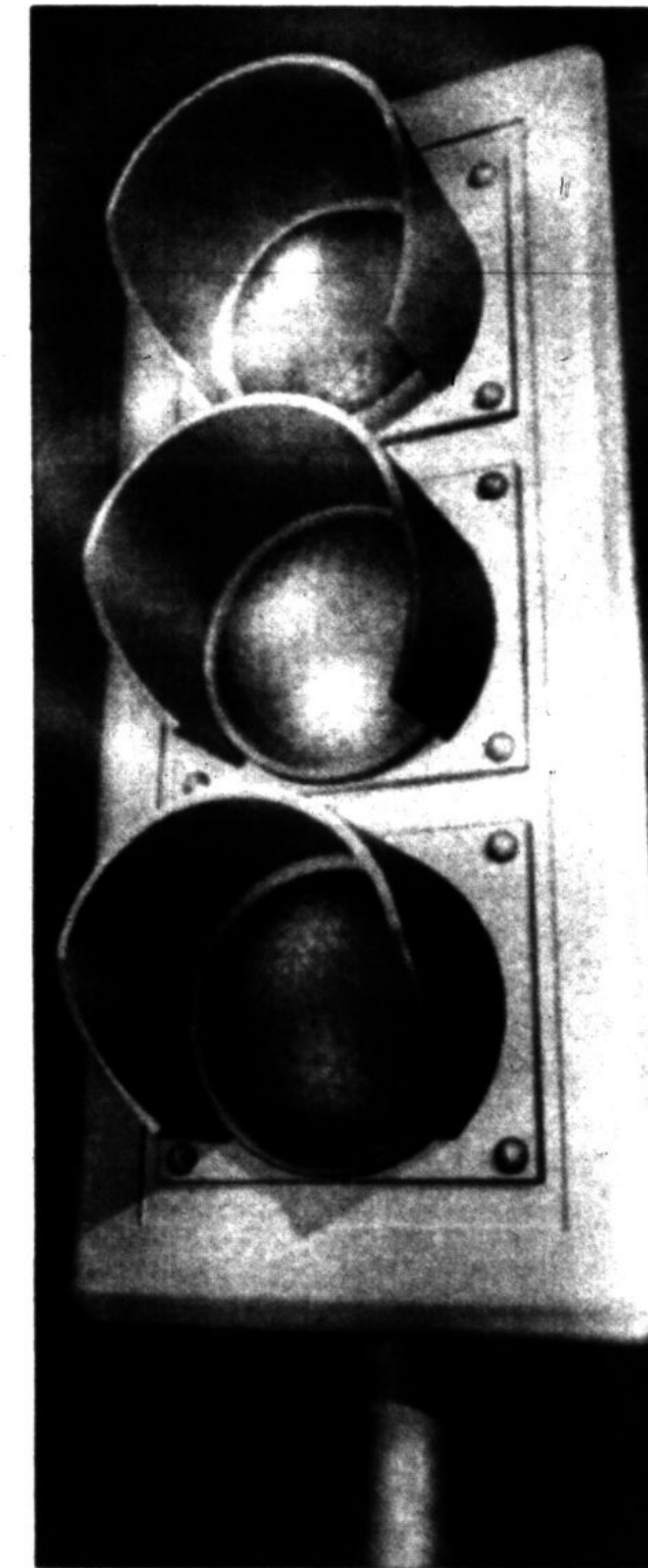
A progress report on the program is expected in the fall and another batch of sites is scheduled to be considered in 2017. As it stands, any additional revenue generated by the program, over and above its operating costs, will be set aside in a reserve intended to install additional red light cameras at intersections around the region.



### CAMERA LOCATIONS

1. Wellington Street and Yonge Street in Aurora
2. Leslie Street and Green Lane in East Gwillimbury
3. Yonge Street and Green Lane in East Gwillimbury
4. The Queensway South and Metro Road/Morton Avenue in Georgina
5. King Road and Dufferin Street in King Township
6. King Road and Bathurst Street in King/Richmond Hill
7. Kennedy Road and Major Mackenzie Drive in Markham
8. Major Mackenzie Drive and McCowan Road in Markham
9. Hwy. 7 and Bullock Drive in Markham
10. Ninth Line and 16th Avenue in Markham
11. Yonge Street Ramp off Hwy. 7 and Hwy. 7 in Markham/Richmond Hill
12. Davis Drive and Ashton Road/Carlson Drive in Newmarket
13. Davis Drive West and Bathurst Street in Newmarket/King
14. Bathurst Street Ramp off Hwy. 7 and Bathurst in Richmond Hill/Vaughan
15. Hwy. 27 and Langstaff Road in Vaughan
16. Hwy. 7 and Vaughan Valley Boulevard in Vaughan
17. Hwy. 7 and Weston Road in Vaughan
18. Woodbine Avenue and Bloomington Road in Whitchurch-Stouffville
19. Woodbine Avenue and Stouffville Road in Whitchurch-Stouffville
20. Woodbine Avenue and Davis Drive in Whitchurch-Stouffville

Run a red light on Woodbine Avenue and you could get caught by one of three red-light cameras approved this week by the region.



ECONOMIST & SUN *Sun-Tribune*  
**NOBODY DOES  
FLYERS  
LIKE WE DO**

When it comes to flyer distribution in Markham and Stouffville, we've got the market locked down. There's simply no better way to get your brand out there. Because our weekly flyer bundle is packed inside the latest editions of the Markham Economist & Sun and Stouffville Sun-Tribune newspapers, your flyer—your brand—could be seen in every household in Markham and Stouffville! You won't find that kind of market saturation with any of our competitors. If you'd prefer to target only specific areas of the town, we can do that too! Just pick your zones, and we'll do the rest. And take a look at this price:

**Distribute for as low as: 4¢ ea.**

1-800-361-0610