Health dept says get on bus for medication

Continued from Page 1

"As far as the department of Health is concerned people can just get on a bus and go down to Dickson," Ms Warne said.

James Walker has been a Hackett resident for more than 30 years and doesn't have a license. He is forced to catch a bus into the city or Dickson to get medication. To make matters worse, the lack of bus shelters in Hackett leaves residents waiting for a bus in the elements.

"If you are going to Dickson, no matter where you get on in this suburb, there is no shelter for waiting," he said.

Mr Walker said Hackett was primarily made up of young families or the elderly, both of which need access to medication. In his mid-70s, he said it would only get harder for him to use public transport to get to a pharmacy every four weeks.

"I've got to get heart tablets, blood tablets, asthma stuff, and stomach stuff – it's constant. Every four weeks I've got to put in the next script, and I'm not the only one," he said. "It's really inconvenient."

Not allowing a pharmacy to be built in Hackett will put residents at a disadvantage, according to Ms Warne.

"Most people go to a pharmacy 14 times a year," Ms Warne said. "These people are expected to go out of the suburb to see their doctor, and then out of the suburb to get their medication."

■ The Hackett Community Association will hold a public meeting on July 23 at St Margaret's Uniting Church to discuss the issue with residents. For more information, visit www.hackett.org.au