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The Urban Planning Special Interest Group has over 200 members at present. There are probably less than 20 active members, as we sign everyone up for our listserv who indicates their interest in Urban & Regional Planning as an area of interest. At the upcoming SIG meeting, I hope to find a new acting chair of the group to replace me, as my responsibilities as a liaison have less to do with planning than they did initially.

We have a wiki under construction. We have occasional email contact, but it is not an overly active group. I have found that it is a wonderful forum to share resources and discuss reference and outreach at our respective libraries.

In Fort Worth at ARLIS 2015, we had a workshop entitled “I didn’t Know Urban Planning Was About…” There were brief presentations and a discussion by the former dean of the UTA School of Urban and Public Affairs, two Fort Worth city planning officials; one involved in their Urban Villages initiative and one responsible for their Open Data Portal, as well as the GIS librarian from Texas A&M. The perspective that they brought to us regarding the training and practice of urban planning professionals was terrific.

We plan to have a SIG meeting in Seattle at ARLIS/VRA 2016. At this point, we will discuss projects and goals for the group in the coming year and whether we want to participate in any panels or think about organizing any events at ARLIS 2017.