



Santa Monica Community College District
District Planning and Advisory Council
MEETING –MARCH 25, 2026
MINUTES

A meeting of the Santa Monica Community College District Planning and Advisory Council (DPAC) was held on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. in the SMC Student Services Center Conference Room 222, 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica. The meeting was also be conducted via Zoom to allow for remote attendance.

- I. Call to Order - 2:07 p.m.
- II. Members
Jason Beardsley Administration, Chair Designee
Vicenta Arrizon, Academic Senate President, Vice-Chair
Sasha King, Administration Representative
Chris Bonvenuto, Management Association Representative
Jose Hernandez, Management Association Representative
Stephanie Amerian, Academic Senate Representative
Peter Morse, Faculty Association President
Elaine Roque, Faculty Association Representative
Cindy Ordaz, CSEA President
Kennisha Green, CSEA Representative
Eva Palafox, Associated Students Representative
- III. Public Comments - None
- IV. Review of Minutes: March 11, 2026. Motion was made by Elaine Roque and seconded by Kennisha Green to approve the minutes of the DPAC meeting on March 11, 2026. *Unanimously approved with one abstention (Sasha King).*
- V. Reports
- VI. Agenda
 1. Mid-Year Update: 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan #1, Develop a Climate Action
Ferris Kavar, Director of Sustainability, presented an update on the 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan #1, Develop a Climate Action Plan. The plan aims to reduce climate impact across multiple areas including water, carbon, electricity, buildings, solid waste, and transportation. The plan includes goals for greenhouse gas emissions with different targets for 2026, 2030, and 2035, along with strategies for energy, green buildings, transportation, water efficiency, and waste reduction. The plan addresses student engagement through curriculum integration and workforce development for clean tech industries, as well as climate adaptation and resilience measures.

The sustainability facility is used as a "living lab" for students, where tours and presentations are conducted for faculty and students studying sustainability. While there isn't a formal connection to policy programs, faculty engage students from environmental studies and science programs through presentations and federal work study opportunities. Stakeholder presentations with faculty, staff, managers, students and equity groups are progressing well with generally positive reception.

There are challenges in implementing sustainability initiatives, emphasizing the need for widespread buy-in and personal responsibility across departments. The Chancellor's Office recommends reporting through STARS, a national rating system, but noted that these goals are self-imposed with no specific penalties for non-compliance. Also provided was an update on the campus's existing purple pipe infrastructure, which is ready for implementation at 17th and Pico but requires additional funding to connect it to the existing system.

2. Motion was made by Peter Morse and seconded by Jose Hernandez to amend 2026-2027 Annual Action Plan #1 by adding Hannah Lawler, Dean of Institutional Research, to the list of Lead Persons. *It was unanimously approved.*

<p>2026-2027 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 1</p> <p>Advance Santa Monica College toward a more strategic, coordinated, and data-informed approach to course scheduling and enrollment management.</p>	<p>Lead Person(s): Jason Beardsley, Vice-President, Academic Affairs Tania Acosta, Vice-President, Student Success Vicenta Arrizon, Academic Senate President Hannah Lawler, Dean, Institutional Research</p> <p>Other Responsible Area(s): Department Chairs</p>
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Subsequently, a correction was made to add Hannah Lawler as a Lead Person to Annual Action Plan #2 (not #1). Motion was made by Jason Beardsley and seconded by Cindy Ordaz to approve the correction. *It was unanimously approved.*

<p>ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2</p> <p>Educate the campus on the Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) and its implications for funding and student success ensuring college practices translate into recognized success under the SCFF (Institutional Effectiveness Committee recommendation).</p>	<p>Lead Person(s): Chris Bonvenuto, Vice-President, Business/Administration Vicenta Arrizon, Academic Senate President Hannah Lawler, Dean, Institutional Research</p> <p>Other Responsible Area(s):</p>
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3. 2026-2027 Annual Action Plans. The Budget Committee reviewed and approved the proposed 2026-2027 Annual Action Plans, as follows:

2026-2027 Annual Action Plan # 1

Recommendation:

On March 18, 2026, the Budget Committee reviewed the Annual Action Plan # 1 and recommends the Strategic Data Informed Scheduling Plan to DPAC and the Superintendent/President as presented, for consideration of inclusion in the 2026-2027 District Budget.

Annual Action Plan #1 includes a \$20,000 on-time funding request for SMC's participation in the IEPI SEM Academy. Participants will include Academic and Student Affairs leadership, Deans, Academic Senate leadership, department chairs and scheduling specialists.

2026-2027 Annual Action Plan #2

Recommendation:

On March 18, 2026, the Budget Committee reviewed the Annual Action Plan # 2 and recommends the Educate the Campus on the Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) Plan to DPAC and the Superintendent/President as presented, for review and consideration.

The goal of Annual Action Plan #2 is to educate the campus community on SCFF mechanics and implications. It has zero cost and can be completed using existing staff time.

Motion was made by Jason Beardsley and seconded by Eva Palafox to approved forwarding the 2026-2027 Annual Action Plans to the Superintendent/President for consideration to include in the tentative budget. *It was unanimously approved.*

4. Discussion: Strategic Planning

There was consensus against hiring a consultant due to cost, campus climate and the preference for an internal and collaborative process. The discussion included the potential structure of the strategic planning group and its relationship to DPAC. It was agreed that DPAC would be the delegating and oversight body, not the implementation body. The strategic planning group would be responsible for writing the plan, meeting deadlines and reporting to DPAC at defined milestones.

A work group of DPAC will draft a proposal for a strategic planning group structure, which will include the charge to the committee, membership structure/composition, reporting relationships and timeline expectations. It was requested that a draft the proposed structure of or a strategic planning group be presented to DPAC for discussion and possible approval by the end of the academic year with the goal of updating DPAC's Scope and Function to formally incorporate strategic planning responsibilities.

VII. Adjournment – 3:30 p.m.

Meeting schedule through June 2026

April 8, 22

May 13, 27

June 10, 24