



Santa Monica Community College District  
District Planning and Advisory Council  
MEETING –MAY 27, 2026  
MINUTES

A meeting of the Santa Monica Community College District Planning and Advisory Council (DPAC) was held on Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. in the SMC Student Services Center Conference Room 222, 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica. The meeting was also conducted via Zoom to allow for remote attendance.

I. Call to Order - 2:08 p.m.

II. Members

Jason Beardsley Administration, Chair Designee

Vicenta Arrizon, Academic Senate President, Vice-Chair

Sasha King, Administration Representative (*participated remotely under the Just Cause Provision of Government Code Section 54953.8.3, related to a physical disability that prevents attendance in person*)

Lisia Rose, Management Association Representative

Jose Hernandez, Management Association Representative

Stephanie Amerian, Academic Senate Representative

Matt Hotsinpillar,, Faculty Association Representative

Elaine Roque, Faculty Association Representative

Cindy Ordaz, CSEA President

Eva Palafox, Associated Students Representative

III. Public Comments - None

IV. Review of Minutes: Motion was made by Vicenta Arrizon and seconded by Jose Hernandez to approve the minutes of the DPAC meeting on May 13, 2026. *Unanimously approved.*

V. Reports - None

VI. Agenda

1. Tentative Schedule of DPAC Meetings, 2026-2027

Link to: [2026-2027 DPAC Meetings](#)

The tentative schedule for 2026-2027 DPAC meetings was discussed, noting that the schedule may need to be adjusted to accommodate the completion of reports, specifically the Program Review and Institutional Effectiveness reports. It was agreed to cancel the DPAC meeting on August 12, 2026.

Motion was made by Vicenta Arrizon and seconded by Cindy Ordaz to approve the schedule of DPAC meetings for 2026-2027 with the understanding that it will be modified as needed.

*Unanimously approved*

2. Discussion: Strategic Planning Task Force

3. Discussion: Establishment of Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Office at Santa Monica College

DPAC reviewed the [Integrated Planning Section](#) of the 2017-2022 Strategic Planning and Facilitation Report.

Key points of the discussion included:

- Concerns about creating a Strategic Planning Task Force, and whether this temporary group would effectively address long-term strategic planning needs at the college.
- The need to better link program review efforts with central college-wide strategic planning to ensure effectiveness and coordination. It was suggested that connecting program review to resource allocation could improve engagement and accountability.
- The need to improve communication and representation in strategic planning processes, suggesting that more voices should be included in DPAC meetings to ensure better alignment across different areas.
- The need to reevaluate DPAC's structure and function, noting that the current structure may not align with the college's current needs and changes since its formation in 2003 and whether it effectively serves as the college's primary planning body. Peer institutions commonly utilize more centralized planning bodies and dedicated institutional effectiveness structures.
- The Dean of Institutional Research position will include elements of planning and institutional effectiveness.

There was general agreement that the college would benefit from a formal institutional effectiveness structure, but additional discussion is needed before formal action is taken. Accordingly, Recommendations No. 2 and No. 3 were tabled (no action taken).

- The discussion regarding the establishment of an Institutional Effectiveness office and/or the formation of a broader strategic planning task force will be continued at the next DPAC meeting.
- The Vice-President of Student Success Tania Acosta and Vice-President of Human Resources Tre'Shawn Hall-Baker will be invited to the next DPAC meeting to participate in the ongoing discussion about strategic planning, institutional effectiveness, and potential restructuring of DPAC.

VII. Adjournment – 4:10 p.m.

Meeting schedule through June 2026

June 10, 24