



Santa Monica Community College District
District Planning and Advisory Council
MEETING –JULY 8, 2026
MINUTES

A meeting of the Santa Monica Community College District Planning and Advisory Council (DPAC) was held on Wednesday, July 8, 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 - 2:09 p.m.

II. Members

Jason Beardsley Administration, DPAC Chair Designee
Vicenta Arrizon, Academic Senate President, DPAC Vice-Chair
Sasha King, Administration Representative
Chante DeLoach, Academic Senate Representative
Christopher Bonvenuto, Management Association Representative
Jose Hernandez, Management Association Representative
Peter Morse, Faculty Association President
Elaine Roque, Faculty Association Representative
Cindy Ordaz, CSEA President
Martha Romano, CSEA Representative (*participated remotely under the Just Cause Provision of Government Code Section 54953.8.3*)
Eva Palafox, Associated Students Representative (*participated remotely under the Just Cause Provision of Government Code Section 54953.8.3*)

III. Public Comments - None

IV. Review of Minutes: Motion was made by Elaine Roque and seconded by Jose Hernandez to approve the minutes of the DPAC meeting on June 24, 2026 .*Unanimously approved with two abstentions (Vicenta Arrizon and Chante DeLoach)*

V. Reports - None

VI. Agenda

1. Recommendation: Proposed District-wide Code of Civility.

In response to the OIR Group Recommendation No.17 that SMC should develop a campus-wide Code of Civility, DPAC charged the DPAC Human Resources Subcommittee to research and present exemplars of civility codes from other community colleges, analyze SMC's relevant board policies and present its findings and a recommendation to DPAC at its meeting on June 24, 2026. The DPAC HR Subcommittee findings suggest that SMC does not need a standalone policy to address civility as it is addressed in multiple existing policies, collective bargaining agreements, merit rules, and other existing frameworks. It was agreed that while existing policies are sufficient, there is a need for better training and professional development on civil and ethical behavior across all employee groups.

The following proposed recommendations to be forwarded to the Superintendent/President: were presented for consideration:

- DPAC recommends that a standalone policy to address civility is not needed.
- DPAC recommends that SMC conduct a gap analysis of current training on civil conduct and propose regular engaging training sessions based on the findings.

CSEA President Cindy Ordaz presented recommendations for implementing a framework addressing civility, safety, and wellness across all employee groups which included:

- Whether the HR Subcommittee's findings adequately addressed the intent of the OIR recommendation.
- The need for a gap analysis focused not only on training but also implementation, accountability, and procedures.
- Concerns about consistency in enforcement and accountability across employee groups.
- The importance of restorative practices, workplace wellness supports, proactive interventions, and employee engagement in framework development.
- The distinction between individual employee support services and broader institutional culture change.
- The role of professional development, scenario-based training, civility education, and wellness initiatives in fostering a respectful and safe workplace culture.

Following discussion, motion was made by Vicenta Arrizon and seconded by Jose Hernandez to forward the recommendations to the Superintendent/President with bullet #2 as amended. It was unanimously approved (*Associated Students representatives were not present*)

- DPAC recommends that a standalone policy to address civility is not needed.
- DPAC recommends that SMC conduct a gap analysis of current training on civility, safety and wellness and propose regular engaging training sessions based on the findings.

2. Continued Discussion on Strategic Planning:

Discussion centered on DPAC's structure and role in strategic planning, if it should change its structure or focus on improving the strategic planning process within the existing framework.

There was consensus that DPAC should review and discuss:

- If DPAC's current structure continues to meet institutional needs; change its structure and charge, if needed
- DPAC's role in initiating and monitoring strategic planning cycles
- The importance of preserving broad constituent representation
- The need for stronger mechanisms to monitor implementation of action plans and planning priorities
- The value of developing a more integrated planning and accountability framework.
- Subcommittee roles and responsibilities

Next Steps: DPAC Members agreed to return to a future meeting prepared with suggestions regarding:

- Desired future structure of DPAC
- Elements that should be retained, revised, or removed
- Improvements needed to support strategic planning, implementation, and accountability

VII. Adjournment – 3:54 p.m. Meeting schedule 2026-2027

2026

July 22

August 26

September 9, 23

October 14, 28

November 11

December 9

2027

January 13, 27

February 10, 24

March 10, 24

April 14, 28

May 12, 26

June 9, 23