



**Rancho Santiago Community College District
Sustainable RSCCD Committee**

September 16, 2026

Zoom Meeting: <https://rsccd-edu.zoom.us/j/88373352078>

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Sustainable RSCCD Committee Purpose and Responsibilities – Matsumoto
3. Sustainable RSCCD Committee Membership – Matsumoto
4. Meeting Notes of May 20, 2026 – Matsumoto
5. Sustainable RSCCD Committee Field Trips – Alcala
6. Sustainability Updates – Alcala
 - Flyers
 - Dashboard
 - SCC Microgrid
7. College Updates
 - Santiago Canyon College – Ingram
 - Santa Ana College – Kennedy
8. Other

Next Meeting:

November 18, 2026

3:00 p.m.

Zoom or TBD

Mission Statement

The Rancho Santiago Community College District aspires to provide equitable, exemplary educational programs and services in safe, inclusive, and supportive learning environments that empower our diverse students and communities to achieve their personal, professional, and academic goals.

Santa Ana College inspires, transforms, and empowers a diverse community of learners.

Santiago Canyon College is an innovative learning community dedicated to intellectual and personal growth. Our purpose is to foster student success and to help students achieve these core outcomes: to learn, to act, to communicate and to think critically. We are committed to maintaining standards of excellence and providing the following to our diverse community: courses, certificates and degrees that are accessible, applicable, and engaging.

Sustainable RSCCD Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Purpose

The Sustainable RSCCD Committee is an ad-hoc participatory governance committee, working with the campus committees, responsible for raising awareness within the district and making recommendations to the Chancellor concerning the conservation of energy and other resources and the implementation of sustainability practices that impact the district and community.

Responsibilities

- Promote and nurture new patterns of thinking about college and district operations, practices, learning programs, support services and the relation to the local community that include consideration of conservation of energy and sustainability.
- Develop a comprehensive plan to achieve climate neutrality.
- Create institutional structures and identify resources relating to conservation of energy and sustainability to guide and support the implementation of the comprehensive plan.
- Complete an inventory of all greenhouse gas emissions and update that inventory.
- Encourage the development of curriculum that raises awareness about climate neutrality and sustainability and that offers a career path to employment in “green” technologies.
- Review the status of and develop objectives related to improving and maintaining the “green infrastructure” of the district and colleges.
- Provide periodic progress reports on the accomplishments of the committee.

Proposed Sustainable RSCCD Committee Membership as of 2026		
Santa Ana College	Santiago Canyon College	District Office
Jim Kennedy (Acting Vice President, Administrative Services)	Iris Ingram (Acting Vice President, Administrative Services)	Carri Matsumoto (Asst. Vice Chancellor, Facility Planning, Construction & District Support Services) - Chair
Jim Kennedy (Vice President, Continuing Education)	Joanne Armstrong (Dean, Student Services)	Jaime Vejar (Director, Facility Planning, Construction & District Support Services)
Kelvin Leeds (Faculty) Vacant (Faculty)	Vanessa Engstrom (Faculty) Daniel Oase (Faculty)	Linda Melendez (Director, Purchasing Services)
Claudia Ruesga (CSEA)	Ambar Nakagami (CSEA)	Simone Wolfe (CSEA)
Vacant (Student) Vacant (Student)	Vacant (Student) Vacant (Student)	Alejandro Alcala (Energy & Sustainability Manager) – Co-Chair

District Representatives

- Chancellor
- Assistant Vice Chancellor, Facilities – Chair
- Management, Facilities Director
- Management, Director of Purchasing Services
- Management, Energy and Sustainability Manager – Co-Chair

College Representatives

- Vice President, Administrative Services – SAC
- Vice President, Administrative Services – SCC
- Management, Vice President – SAC
- Management, Dean – SCC

Faculty Representatives*

- Two faculty members as appointed by the SAC Academic Senate
- Two faculty members as appointed by the SCC Academic Senate

Classified Representatives*

- Four classified representatives as appointed by CSEA

Student Representatives

- Two students as appointed by the SAC Associated Student Government
- Two students as appointed by the SCC Associated Student Government

* If possible, faculty and classified representatives will be appointed to a two-year term. To ensure committee continuity, the terms will be staggered. Initial appointment by half of the representatives will be for a two-year term and the other half of the representatives will be for a three-year term.



Rancho Santiago Community College District
Sustainable RSCCD Committee

Meeting Notes

May 20, 2026

Members:	Carri Matsumoto	Absent
	Arleen Satele	Absent
	Linda Melendez	Absent
	Joanne Armstrong	Absent
	Jim Kennedy	Present
	Kelvin Leeds	Absent
	Craig Ursuy	Absent
	Vanessa Engstrom	Present
	Daniel Oase	Present
	Alejandro Alcala	Present
	Ambar Nakagami	Absent
	Simone Wolfe	Present
	Connor Tsai	Present
	Natasha El-Maissi	Absent
	Kimberly Ramirez	Absent
	Trish Occ	Absent
Guests:	Joe Melendez	Present
	Hugo Curiel	Present
	David Nakagami	Present
	Francisco Gonzalez	Present
	Lisa Imai	Present
	Conor McKenzie	Present

Energy & Sustainability Manager, Alejandro Alcala convened the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

1. Introductions

Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

2. Meeting Notes of March 18, 2026

Mr. Alcala noted the meeting notes from the March 18, 2026 meeting were attached to the agenda for today's meeting and asked the committee if they had any questions, comments or edits. There were no changes.

3. Approval of 2026-2027 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Alcala shared the 2026-2027 meeting schedule and asked the committee if they had any comments or questions. The members did not have any disagreement with the dates.

4. Sustainable RSCCD Committee Field Trips

Mr. Alcala noted the committee hosts field trips that relate to the District's Sustainability Master Plan and will continue to organize one or two field trips per year.

5. Earth Day Events

Mr. Gonzalez noted SCC had a great event with 40 booths and will continue to make the event bigger and better every year. Ms. Engstrom noted one of the biology teachers gave guided tours of the greenhouse and native plant gardens and liked how the event tied in with the college's Community Science Night.

Mr. Kennedy noted SAC's event was run by ASG and it was a wonderful event. Ms. Wolfe noted the students had a lot of interest in visiting the committee's booth to take the recycling challenge.

6. College Updates

Mr. Kennedy noted the football field at SAC will be opening and will save water usage for the college since it is made of synthetic turf.

Mr. Alcala noted the SCC microgrid feasibility study is being finalized.

7. Other

Mr. Alcala asked the committee if they had any other items for discussion, questions or comments. There were none.

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Meeting Adjournment: 3:22 p.m.



Sustainable Commuting



DID YOU KNOW?

Transportation accounts for roughly 40% of California's greenhouse gas emissions. How we commute to campus influences both environmental outcomes and funding priorities for regional transit infrastructure. Choosing sustainable transportation can also save you money, reduce traffic and parking stress, and improve your health.



Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) bus routes serve SAC and SCC

The Santa Ana Metrolink Station connects Orange County to LA and the Inland Empire



RIDERSHIP DRIVES CHANGE

Ridership data directly influences local transportation planning decisions. Every bus rider, cyclist, and carpool demonstrates demand for expanded transit routes, protected bike lanes, and pedestrian infrastructure.



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Want better bus routes or bike infrastructure? Share your input with the Sustainable RSCCD Committee.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSIT OPTIONS

- OCTA offers free transit passes for SAC and SCC students
 - Carpool with classmates or coworkers
 - Bike to campus (racks available)
- Consider hybrid/remote courses



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



More info: https://rsccd.edu/divisions/business_services/committees/sustainable-rsccd-committee

Celebrate Earth Day



April 22, 2026



DID YOU KNOW?

Earth Day emerged from grassroots environmental activism in 1970, when 20 million Americans took to the streets to demand environmental protections. Today, RSCCD continues that tradition of collective action while working toward California's ambitious sustainability goals.



ASG Clean Up at Miles Square Park
2025 Sustain-a-Palooza at Santa Ana College

2025 EarthFest Santiago Canyon College



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

California aims to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.

Student and staff voices in campus governance, local planning meetings, and organized advocacy help shape the policies that will get us there. Get involved through clubs, ASG, or the Sustainable RSCCD Committee to influence meaningful change.

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

- Join campus environmental clubs and initiatives
- Attend sustainability events and speaker series
- Connect with local climate action groups



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



More info: https://rsccd.edu/divisions/business_services/committees/sustainable-rsccd-committee



Energy Efficiency & Water Conservation



DID YOU KNOW?

RSCCD is upgrading to energy-efficient equipment and renewable energy sources across our campuses. The district is also implementing comprehensive water conservation measures, including low-flow fixtures, native and drought-tolerant landscaping, and exploring non-potable water resources.



2025 Tour of SoCal Gas Hydrogen Microgrid Facility

2025 Tour of Orange County Sanitation Wastewater Facility



California's Goal: 100% Renewable Energy by 2035

Our district is working toward this statewide goal as feasibility and funding allow. Energy conservation lowers operational costs and reduces strain during peak demand periods



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Want better bus routes or bike infrastructure? Share your input with the Sustainable RSCCD Committee.

SIMPLE ACTIONS

- Turn off lights and screens in empty classrooms and offices
- Close doors to keep conditioned air inside
- Water lawns and gardens in the evening or early morning
- Use pool covers to reduce evaporation
- Choose drought-tolerant native plants for landscaping
- Support commercial car washes that recycle water



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



More info: https://rscdd.edu/divisions/business_services/committees/sustainable-rscdd-committee

Mindful Consumption & Waste Reduction

DID YOU KNOW?

California leads the nation in producer responsibility legislation, requiring companies to reduce packaging waste and fund recycling infrastructure. Consumer choices and policy advocacy both play important roles in shifting toward circular economy models.



Bring a reusable water bottle to reduce single use plastic use!



Divert food waste and recyclables to reduce waste sent to landfill!



SAVE MONEY, AVOID WASTE

Durable, quality products often cost less over time than repeatedly purchasing disposable alternatives. California's right-to-repair movement and extended producer responsibility laws are transforming how companies design products and manage waste.



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Campus resources include textbook exchanges, food pantries, supply swaps, and water refill stations. Contact the Sustainable RSCCD Committee with suggestions for reducing waste on campus.

BOTH ON AND OFF CAMPUS

- Bring reusable water bottles, coffee cups, and shopping bags
- Choose reusable, recyclable, and compostable over disposable when practical
- Choose products with minimal or recyclable packaging
- Buy or rent used textbooks and supplies when available



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



More info: https://rscdd.edu/divisions/business_services/committees/sustainable-rscdd-committee