



SANTA MONICA PULSE

SURVEY RESPONSES FOR MAY 2026

Text message poll sent to ~1,000 Santa Monicans on May 12 with a response rate of 9.6 percent.

QUESTION 1:

Santa Monica Councilmember Lana Negrete just announced that she will run for re-election this year, and is expected to run on a slate of candidates with local businessman Doug Tressler and environmentalist Ashley Oelsen. All three are critics of the Santa Monica City Council’s establishment.

The establishment is expected to run its own slate of candidates, which will include Mayor Caroline Torosis and several other, currently undetermined candidates.

If the Santa Monica City Council elections were held today, would you support the Negrete slate of candidates or the establishment slate of candidates?

	Total Pct
1. The Negrete Slate	50.00%
2. The Establishment Slate	4.17%
3. Other	31.25%
4. No Opinion/Not Voting	14.58%
TOTAL	100.00%

QUESTION 2:

At its April 28 meeting, the Santa Monica City Council increased its investment into its Transitional Employment Service by \$490,000, which would bring the total investment into the program up to \$1.6 million. The service hires homeless and low-income Santa Monicans to help clean streets and remove litter in the city.

The program is part of the City Managers realignment plan, which aims to improve public safety, increase revenue, and cut expenditures. Proponents say that the program provides physical improvements to downtown Santa Monica while also providing job experience and opportunity for those in need.

Do you agree with increasing investment into this program?

	Total Pct
1. Yes	36.46%
2. No	53.13%
3. No Opinion	10.42%
TOTAL	100.00%

QUESTION 3:

The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) recently launched the SMART Center, a real-time crime hub that integrates cameras, drones, and video analytics to help officers respond to crime faster.

Supporters say that the Center will allow SMPD to “operate with greater precision, coordinate in real time, and proactively address crime trends.” Opponents say that SMART Centers “do not reduce violent crime and disproportionately harm communities of color.”

Do you think this initiative will make Santa Monica safer?

	Total Pct
1. Yes	62.50%
2. No	19.79%
3. No Impact on Public Safety	11.46%
4. No Opinion	6.25%
TOTAL	100.00%