

CRC Surveys – Durango Pride Festival – 25 Jun 16 (N=58)

What do you like about Durango?

Diversity of the community (more than we realize)

College town

Bear!!!

How much it offers culturally for its size

Openness to new things and progressive ideas

*Everything, outdoor stuff, attitude; free to be me

*Community

*Location

River

*Friendly people (down to earth and laid back)

*Weather

*Small time atmosphere w/ medium sized attitude

Tourist and college bring more diversity

Slow traffic lets the streets be walkable and livable (tourist)

Live and let live attitude

Outdoors

Blue town in a red state

Great get-away (Farmington, NM)

Pedestrian friendly

Great food options; lots to do downtown

All the committees that exist within it

Unique

Social sustainability

Candy store

Open and accepting community

Engaged community

*Mountain vistas from town

*Great group of people here (respectful)

“Beautiful people” – positive, forward moving; willing to get involved

Easy access to out of doors; and other regional attractions (parks, lakes, trail system)

It's evolving

You can find middle ground between differences here

What does “Diversity” mean to you?

*Complexity of human beings, many lifestyles and philosophies

Other than being co-opted by corporate, can develop a more inclusive society

*Collection of people, backgrounds, heritage, social status

*I think of “ethnicity”, but contrast the college and ranch culture here as well

Tolerance of differences, the “diversity” of thought as well

*All walks of life, all types of people; like flowers in a garden

All colors, all kinds

Race

Culture

Another different opinion

*Multi-culturalism / festivals

Comfort

No closed edges, room

*Don't know

More than a mountain town

Sociopolitical

Hodgepodge

Enjoyment of all aspects of life

Cowboys holding hands

Being able to be yourself

Diversity is race, religion, orientation, and people with special needs

When you can look around and say “everything's okay”

I can be a part of different groups

Acceptance of every one of every kind everywhere

You can be yourself no matter what and no one will judge you

Accepting everyone as they are

It means accepting people regardless of their orientation.

It is love

It means nonjudgmental

Individuality

How is diversity beneficial to a community?

*Adds richness to everyone's life

*The more points of view the more educated

The more you encounter the less you fear

Creates more whole people

Better place for people to live in

For change

*Brings more perspective, innovation, (and better food, fashion)

“all have something of value to contribute; if allowed to”

We all need exposure to ideas, lifestyles

Creativity

Part of social fabric

Better understanding of the world

Creates less conflict because of understanding

*Chances to learn about others and your self

Opens people for the future

Opportunity for policies to affect beneficial change for everyone, not just certain ones

Opens doors to everyone's abilities and creativity otherwise not heard

Differences bring us together; it reflects the world

Makes life more interesting

There are intangibles that are significant

It helps everyone learn and grow together

Brings in different perspectives

Supports idiosyncrasies

Provides diversity of opinion

It would be really boring if we were all the same

Allows everyone to have an opportunity

Brings the community together

You can wear whatever you want and still fit in

Teaches acceptance because we're all different

There's no hate

Provides love to a community

Diversity makes everyone feel safe

Unifies a community

Makes people more accepting

Helps us evolve

Helps a community look forward

Brings everyone, all walks of life and all kinds of opinions together

It's a good way to get everyone together

A community cannot survive without diversity- it will stay stagnant, but a melting pot helps us all

How do you deal with conflict with people not like you?

*Agree to disagree

*Avoid the topic

Attempt a calm discussion

Stay home and off of Facebook

Listen; not seek an argument

Keep a cool head – walk away

*Try to understand their perspective

shut my mouth and listen

take time to evaluate and formulate my response

make sure everyone is heard

if they don't leave, I leave

don't try to fix anybody anymore

*“what do you mean by that” (ask them questions to clarify)

That's not appropriate

Jokes

Depends upon the “context” of the situation (time/place)
I basically seek out different perspectives
I tell them “like it is” and politely, excuse myself
It’s always awful
I don’t experience it because I am open and allowing
When I accept others and support them they support me
When people are more accepting there isn’t conflict
I don’t interact with them or I have short-term interactions with them
I can’t ever pick a side because I see all sides of conflict
I haven’t had that happen
I just know they’re entitled to their beliefs
I try to be well-behaved
I try to work it out as best as I can

Messages for City Council

Provide more opportunities to see diversity in this city
More classes, events, and clubs that focus on difference
They should be more proactive with supporting women-owned business
There should be more for people with special needs in this city
Advertise acceptance
Be more vocal about supporting difference
They should be more involved in minority-run events
We need more media coverage of events like this one (Pride Fest)
Provide more positive communication for those of us in the city who feel that we’re different
or of a minority group