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
  Betters 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 live 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