Resolution R-2024-0050

A RESOLUTION RECONSTITUTING THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF DURANGO AS THE COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL RELATIONS COMMISSION AND REPLACING RESOLUTION 2012-26

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Durango recognizes the importance of promoting and accepting diversity within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council seeks to discourage all forms of discrimination including, but not limited to, discrimination on the basis of race, creed, economic condition, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identification, gender expression, marital or familial status, military or veteran status, political affiliation, socio- economic class, physical or mental disability; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the jurisdiction exercised by the City of Durango is limited to within its municipal boundaries and should not conflict, or duplicate, the jurisdiction of any county, state, or federal agency that may have legal authority over cognizant matters; and

WHEREAS, the city council wishes to reconstitute an advisory board that will assists with supporting an environment in which our diverse community members feel valued and heard when they interact with the City of Durango (as an organization). The Community and Cultural Relations Commission (CCRC) will help create a welcoming setting for historically disadvantaged groups that encourages participation and builds trust and collaboration. The CCRC works to build new relationships with community leaders and organizations, celebrate Durango's diverse cultural communities, and cultivate meaningful and authentic engagement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Durango, Colorado, that:

Section 1. The Commission will promote acceptance and respect for diversity through promoting and extending existing educational programs and cultural events; assisting in the creation of new educational programs and cultural events; and working with local businesses, governmental units, media and nonprofit agencies to increase their awareness of and accessibility to all members of the community.

Section 2. The Commission will encourage participation by all groups in local government. To this end, the Commission may advocate for accommodations for specific groups and individuals including but not limited to publication of written material in braille and foreign languages, and the provision of ASL and foreign language interpreters in courts and City of Durango functions that are open to the public.

Section 3. The Commission will encourage the City of Durango and other governmental units to adopt policies that promote social harmony and prohibit discrimination.

Section 4. The Commission consists of no more than seven members

appointed by the City Council, which are representative of the social, racial, religious, linguistic, gender, cultural and economic characteristics of the city. All members of the commission are residents of the Durango area and will be eligible to serve two consecutive two-year terms.

The consideration of appointment of members shall provide equal access and opportunity to serve on the Commission to all historically disadvantaged groups, including but not limited to the following:

- Black or African Americans
- Latino or Hispanic individuals
- Native Americans and Indigenous People
- Asian Americans
- Members of the LGBTQ+ community
- Youth members, between the ages of 18 and 25
- Individuals with a disability or disabled individuals
- Neurodiverse individuals

Section 5. The Commission shall not have any regulatory authority or enforcement.

Section 6. The Commission shall be advisory in nature and shall submit recommendations and regular minutes of their meetings to the City Council. Procedures for determining officers of the Commission, meeting protocols, determining and filling of vacancies on the Commission and similar matters shall be in accordance with the City of Durango Rules and Procedures for Boards and Commissions.

Approved and adopted this 20th day of August, 2024.

CITY OF DURANGO, COLORADO

By: _____
Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
Faye Harmer, City Clerk