

Denver Police Partnership Denver 2030 Gay Games Bid

The Denver Police Department (DPD) is honored to express its full support for Denver's bid to host the 2030 Gay Games. As an agency deeply committed to inclusivity, public safety, and authentic community partnership, DPD pledges their support that every athlete, visitor, and community member experiences Denver as a safe, welcoming, and affirming city. Our long-standing work alongside LGBTQ+ communities reflects not only our dedication to equitable policing, but also our belief that diversity and inclusion strengthen both our department and the wider Denver community.

1. LGBTQ+ Representation & Leadership

- DPD has strong LGBTQ+ representation across its ranks, including officers and leaders who understand the unique challenges facing LGBTQ+ communities. Officers are encouraged to be their authentic selves, where people's differences are embraced and celebrated. This helps DPD to continue to provide excellent and trusted service to the community it serves.
 - DPD was the first organization in Colorado to be certified by Out To Protect, a national LGBTQ+ organization dedicated to advancing inclusivity in law enforcement. This certification reflects DPD's genuine, sustained effort to serve not only the public but also its own diverse internal workforce.
 - In the summer of 2025 one of our DPD Officer Liaisons was recognized as a leader by our LGBTQ+ Chamber of Commerce for all the outstanding partnership and work within our community. This is truly unique, as they recognized his efforts as a representative of the DPD and our work to support LGBTQ+ business in Denver.
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2. Authentic Engagement with LGBTQ+ Communities

- Engagement is authentic and ongoing, not symbolic. DPD works in continuous partnership with LGBTQ+ organizations in Denver to collaborate in training opportunities, raise awareness, and foster trust.
- Officers and community liaisons routinely collaborate with LGBTQ+ nonprofits, advocacy groups, and service providers on issues that intersect law enforcement and community safety.
- Historically, DPD has shown leadership on LGBTQ+ equity, being among the first agencies in Colorado to support civil unions, which gave their partners access to insurance and retirement benefits, even prior to marriage equality.

- DPD celebrates and recognizes the work of its LGBTQ+ officers and liaisons, several of whom have received civic and internal awards for their service and advocacy.
 - Denver also hosts one of the largest Prides in the Country. This is something DPD is very proud of, as this event brings upwards of 500,000 people to our City. This also highlights DPD's commitment able to provide community safety, while supporting the joy of the celebration.
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3. Dedicated Bias Crime Team

- DPD is one of the first police departments nationwide to establish a dedicated Bias-Motivated Crimes team, underscoring our zero-tolerance approach to hate-driven acts.
 - Detectives assigned to this team are specifically trained in trauma-informed interviewing techniques, ensuring that victims of bias crimes are treated with compassion, dignity, and professionalism.
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4. Cultural Sensitivity & Training

- DPD provides continual training to ensure all officers are equipped to serve all communities respectfully, including LGBTQ+ residents, visitors, and international guests, which will provide a safe and welcoming venue during the Gay Games.
 - The "Before the Badge" program engages incoming recruits with community members before academy training begins, exposing recruits to diverse perspectives and building empathy. We ensure this occurs before you even hit our doors, as we only want the most competent and caring officers to represent our department.
 - Throughout their careers, officers receive regular education on understanding implicit bias, LGBTQ+ awareness, cultural competency, and trauma-informed approaches, ensuring inclusive policing is a core practice, not a one-time session.
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5. Immigration Policy & Participant Safety

- DPD policies ensure that all residents and visitors can safely engage with police services without fear of civil immigration consequences.
- Guided by the Denver Public Safety Enforcement Priorities Act (2017) and state laws, DPD officers:

- Do not collect immigration status: Officers are prohibited from asking about or storing immigration or citizenship status.
- Do not assist in civil immigration enforcement: DPD resources cannot be used for ICE civil enforcement actions.
- Do not honor ICE civil detainers: State law prohibits Denver from holding individuals at ICE's request without a criminal warrant.
- Restrict sharing of personal data: Local and state laws protect against the sharing of personal identifying information for immigration enforcement, except when required by a court order.
- Restrict ICE entry into detention facilities: ICE must have a federal criminal warrant to enter secure areas of jails.

Officers who fail to adhere to these policies face disciplinary consequences, including up to termination.

Closing Commitment

The DPD stands as an ally and advocate for equity and belonging. Our department is committed to partnering with the Gay Games organizers, Denver city leadership, and our international guests to ensure the 2030 Gay Games are remembered as not only a world-class sporting event but also a model of inclusivity, safety, and celebration.

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