

Opinion

Gottheimer protects the human infrastructure

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Recently, U.S. Rep. Josh Gottheimer, D-5th Dist., came to The Colony cooperative residence in Fort Lee and spoke to an audience of over 150 Colony shareholders. I was one of these shareholders who attended this fascinating Q & A session arranged by our board of directors.

Gottheimer, who is running for reelection Nov. 8, brings to his constituents a very rich and substantive understanding of civic structure and community life, looking at what I, as a sociologist, call the “human” infrastructure. This is just as critical as the transportation and environmental infrastructures.

While advancing the environmental infrastructure, clawing back federal dollars for numerous clean water projects, and New Jersey’s transportation infrastructure, using federal dollars for NJ’s ports, roads, rails, and bridges, Gottheimer has led the way with investing in our first responders: our firefighters, police, and EMTs.

He understands that these dedicated men and women who comprise our human infrastructure are essential to a healthy and productive society. Last month he succeeded in getting the House of Representatives to pass his bipartisan “Invest to Protect Act” that guarantees funding of police departments all over the country with the necessary funds for recruitment, retention, support and training.

Gottheimer has invigorated and breathed new life into civics. For that alone, I am proud to be his constituent, and grateful to The Colony board for arranging the candidate forum at our building.

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