

Finding Common Ground on Infrastructure Investment



In the inaugural Common Grounds event today, Chamber Chief Policy Officer Neil Bradley talked infrastructure policy and bipartisanship with Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA) and Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL).

Why infrastructure is important: "This is a priority of the American people," said Rep. Moulton. "We've got to make sure we have a forward-looking infrastructure plan that will build for the next century."

Building bipartisanship with an infrastructure bill: "We aren't enemies. We can actually talk to each other about moving good policy forward," said Rep. Davis.

Rep. Moulton agreed: "I think people have had enough of Congress convening in Washington to bicker. They actually want Congress to get things done."

"If you go in with the attitude that we agree the majority of the time more than we disagree, we can find that balanced bill," explained Rep. Davis. "Highway funding is a major issue in my district just like it is to urban districts."

Building digital infrastructure: "The growing tech divides is exacerbating racial divides and the urban-rural divide that are already too great," said Rep. Moulton. On broadband internet access, "investments have to be made to get to the last mile, and that's where we should focus," explained Rep. Davis.

How do we pay for it? "We have to have a user fee-based system, but we're going to see more electric vehicles on the roadways in the next few years," Rep. Davis explained. "Instead of

looking at the gas tax and one user fee as our only source how do we begin to diversify our sources?"

Fun facts: Rep. Mouton rations his coffee intake to only three cups a week, and Rep. Davis' caffeine drinks of choice are Diet Coke and Diet Pepsi.

Common Grounds, in partnership with Compass Coffee, brings members of Congress together in bipartisan conversations over coffee.

[Watch](#)