

Summary

Citizens' Space Agenda

WHO WE ARE: We are private U.S. citizens who have travelled to Washington, DC, on our own time and our own dime to advocate for a “Citizens’ Space Agenda.”

NON-PROFIT SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS:

1. The “Citizens’ Space Agenda” is a project of the Alliance for Space Development, and is sponsored by the Space Frontier Foundation and National Space Society.
2. It is supported by Students for the Exploration and Development of Space, Students on Capitol Hill, the Lifeboat Foundation, The Mars Foundation, The Mars Society, The Space Development Steering Committee, The Space Tourism Society, Tea Party in Space, the Space Development Foundation, and Space Renaissance USA.

OUR 2018 ISSUES:

1. Establish an Ultra Low Cost Access to Space (ULCATS) program based on public-private partnership and streamlined governmental policy and regulations
2. Ensure a gapless transition from ISS to private space stations in LEO, with NASA assisting with development and serving as an early customer
3. Enable cis-lunar development through a series of programs, such as:
 - A public-private partnership to develop and demonstrate a re-usable lander based in cis-lunar space
 - Setting a price that NASA will pay for commodities (water, etc.) at locations in cis-lunar space
 - Purchasing data on lunar resources (water, etc.) gathered by private companies

What is ULCATS?

- Ultra-Low Cost Access To Space (ULCATS) is a proposed national goal to transform the U.S. space launch industry to provide daily access to space at very low cost
 - No current launchers provide ULCATS although companies are working to develop it
 - This is about creating an industry, not a single system
- America's strategic interests demand that this be an American industry and activity
 - National Security – provides for rapid replacement of military space assets
 - Economic Security – Drastic reductions in launch costs open up new jobs and new industries worth billions
- These capabilities will revolutionize our relationship to space, inspiring Americans and demonstrate American leadership, worldwide.

- How can government help create an ULCATS industry?
 1. Encourage Technology Development— focusing on full reusability and lower operational costs.
 2. Act as an Intelligent Customer – many government agencies could benefit from this industry, but most are not ready to be customers
 3. Growth Oriented Regulation – assure safe operation while avoiding onerous, unnecessary and duplicative regulations for re-usable launch vehicles
- This is a cross-cutting activity, and will involve multiple federal agencies (NASA, Air Force, DARPA, etc.). Our proposed ULCATS bill requires the Executive Branch to develop a plan that enables ULCATS (draft text is at www.allianceforspacedevelopment.org)
- **REQUEST: Will you be an original sponsor of the ULCATS Act?**

Ensure Gapless transition from ISS to Private Commercial Stations in LEO

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- **BACKGROUND:** The U.S. invested tens of billions into the construction and operation of the International Space Station (ISS), and it will continue to operate until 2024.
 - The space station has emerged as a place to do world class science and commercial development.
 - There currently is no plan to ensure the U.S. does not lose this capability after 2024.
- **SITUATION:** In the 2017 NASA Transition Act, Congress requested NASA to produce a transition report. **The report is overdue.**
 - Our expectation is that when it is delivered, it enables commercial space stations to come online as soon as possible ensuring a gapless transition.
- **OUR CONCERN:** NASA officials have repeatedly said that they want guidance as to the direction of Earth Orbit activities, and their level of importance, from the Administration and Congress. However, the discussion of transition activities has focused on extending ISS to 2028, which only kicks the can down the road.
 - **The United States focus should be on enabling commercial stations as soon as possible, rather than merely extending the existing system.**

- **Report Language:** We request the inclusion of House/Senate report language associated with the Commerce, Justice, Science and Appropriations bill that directs NASA to utilize the transition report to develop a clear plan for a gapless transition from the ISS to commercial space stations. The report language should request the plan:
 - Ensure that the U.S. will maintain its presence in LEO post-ISS
 - Prioritize activities at the ISS to enable the creation, development, deployment, and operation of commercial space stations
 - Expand existing public/private partnerships that are helping to develop commercial space stations and expand new opportunities at the ISS
 - Create new opportunities for commercial industry to provide services to the government
 - Ensure NASA does not engage in activities competing with the private sector by, among other things, avoiding a large new technology development program
- **Request – will you support report language that requests this?**

Why *Cis-lunar Development* is Critically Important

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- **The Time is Now:** On December 11, 2017, the President signed Space Policy Directive 1 (SPD1), which called for the United States to “**lead the return of humans to the Moon for long-term exploration and utilization**” while working with “**commercial and international partners.**”
- **Cis-Lunar space includes:**
 - The area between the Earth and Moon including Earth orbit, Lunar surface, Lunar orbits, L-points, and resources brought to this area from asteroids
- **What is cis-Lunar Development?**
 - A public-private partnership to develop, demonstrate, and deploy infrastructure for exploring and developing the cis-lunar space environment, such as a re-usable lander and a deep space gateway space station.
 - Setting a price that NASA will pay for commodities (water, etc.) at locations in cis-lunar space.
 - Purchasing data on lunar resources (water, etc.) gathered by private companies
- **Why Now is the Time for cis-Lunar Development:**
 - Companies are seriously pursuing asteroid and lunar mining
 - NASA has begun the process via NASA’s **Next Step** of developing a cis-Lunar base in the vicinity of the Moon
 - The experience base of LEO COTS/CRS is available as a foundation
 - The prospective near-term availability of new vehicles for reaching cis-Lunar space
 - Falcon Heavy, SLS/Orion, New Glenn, Vulcan

- **Benefits of Cis-Lunar Commercialization (CLC):**
 - **Economic Growth** — has the potential, as outlined by ULA, to support massive growth in the space economy.
 - **Civil Space** — Today, our national space agenda is struggling. With CLC, America has the opportunity to lead the way to the development of Lunar and asteroidal resources while building the foundation of an affordable journey to Mars.
 - **Imagination & Inspiration** — If CLC leads to profitable companies mining the Moon and asteroids, the world will be inspired by American leadership, ingenuity, and entrepreneurship.
 - **American Leadership** — With the success of CLC, America has the potential to become the undisputed leader of the world in space well into the 21st Century, providing significant soft power benefits for American diplomacy and influence in the world. CLC is more affordable for international participants with more short term practical returns than efforts focused on more distant goals.
 - **Scientific leadership:** Developing lunar resources will enable a wide range of scientific investigations. Cis-Lunar space is relatively accessible to educational institutions and international partners, allowing vast scope for U.S. leadership.
- **REQUEST** Are you willing to be the primary sponsor of Cis-Lunar Commercialization Act of 2018 draft legislation?
- **DRAFT legislation can be found at:** www.allianceforspacedevelopment.org