



Citizens for Space Exploration Endorses “A Space Exploration Roadmap for the Next Administration”

Citizens for Space Exploration –strongly supports “A Space Exploration Roadmap for the Next Administration”** position paper and its message that “A government-led program that opens the frontier beyond Earth for ourselves, our international partners, commerce and science is crucial if we wish to control our national destiny and lead the way to a future guided by American values and freedoms.”

The U.S. must build on the tremendous program progress and operational successes of our broad-based national space program as we prepare to enter a new age of exploration and discovery, going beyond the bounds of where humans have ever gone before. American leadership will be predicated upon the following:

- Close alignment between the next Administration and Congress on space policy, priorities and funding levels
- Robust and dependable U.S. access to deep space via the SLS rocket and Orion spacecraft
- U.S. leadership and achievement in space science
- Use of the International Space Station as a technology testbed and cornerstone of future exploration
- New space transportation services on NASA’s low-Earth orbit operations without sacrificing safety or mission assurance
- A streamlined NASA institutional footprint, bureaucracy and procurement practices
- New technologies and space capabilities to support science, exploration and national security requirements

America’s space exploration program absorbs a minimal of our nation’s financial resources (less than ½ of 1% of the federal budget) and returns extraordinary value that benefits all our citizens. As discussed in the “Space Exploration Roadmap” paper, those benefits range from technical leadership, to advances in space science, to a strong national industrial base, to economic development and commerce, to global influence, to STEM-related inspiration for future generations.

This national space leadership platform has been issued by The Coalition for Deep Space Exploration – an industry association representing American companies that are building NASA’s next-generation rocket and spacecraft for human exploration to the Moon and Mars, as well as cutting-edge science telescopes and robotic spacecraft. As a national grassroots advocacy organization, Citizens for Space Exploration (www.citizensforspace.org) is pleased to add its support for this important position paper and the Coalition’s efforts.

We encourage and welcome support for the principles expressed in “A Space Exploration Roadmap for the Next Administration” and pledge to work with Congress and the new President to keep US leadership at the forefront of our future in space and exploration.

******(For the full text of the Coalition for Deep Space Exploration’s “A Space Exploration Roadmap for the Next Administration” position paper see: http://exploredespace.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/A-Space-Exploration-Roadmap_The-Coalition-for-Deep-Space-Exploration_FINAL_LowRes.pdf)

Citizens for Space Exploration – a pro-space, taxpayer, grassroots advocacy group (www.citizensforspace.org) – has travelled to Washington, D.C. the past 25 years to meet face-to-face with Members/staff of Congress to discuss the value of America’s investment in space exploration. In order to sustain that dialogue on a regular basis, Citizens distributes “Space Exploration Update” to Congressional offices on a weekly basis. The intent is to provide an easy, quick way to stay abreast of key human space exploration program and policy developments.