SUMMARY

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.


OUR SPECIFIC REQUESTS:

1. Create a "No Gap" low-risk transition from the International Space Station to commercial space stations in low Earth orbit.

2. Establish “Settlement & Development” as official purposes of NASA and our nation.
Ensure Gapless transition from ISS to Private Commercial Stations in LEO

• BACKGROUND: The U.S. and our partners have invested over $100B building and operating the International Space Station (ISS). The ISS is the foundation of American human spaceflight.

• PROBLEM:
  1. The White House and NASA have announced America will transition to commercially-owned and operated stations after ISS in 2024, but NASA has no plan for managing this transition. Without a clear and viable transition plan, The U.S. risks foreign powers becoming world leaders in LEO, and losing the foundation we have for viable BEO exploration.
  2. Without a credible transition plan, America will have yet another gap in human spaceflight, and many of the accumulated skills and capabilities generated by three decades of investment could be lost.

• SOLUTION:
  1. Commit the U.S. government to continuing its basic research on using, and human adaptation to, the microgravity environment in low Earth orbit (LEO) as a customer of commercial LEO station providers, ensuring that no “gap” will exist in this critical research and development.
  2. Encourage NASA to use the proven public/private partnership approach to stimulate rapid development of next-generation commercial application, propulsion, and habitation capabilities for LEO, including testing and demonstration of those capabilities at the ISS before transition to commercial stations.
  3. Fund administration’s request for a NextStep deep space habitation module. This is a helpful step that can be synergistic with a gapless transition to commercial stations in LEO.

• REQUEST: Please consider being a primary sponsor of ASD’s draft legislation to ensure a seamless low-risk transition from ISS to private commercial stations.
A Bill introduced by Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) as H.R.4752:

• It gives American space policy a true long-term goal.

• Permanent human space settlement is an idea that inspires — from Jeff Bezos, to Elon Musk, to many other private citizens — and so it will inspire a new generation to go into STEM related fields.

• It will drive an exponentially growing space-based economy, and lead to economic growth and abundant resources for people on and off planet Earth.

• It will provide humanity with a better chance for long-term survival.

• Space settlement is in the long-term strategic interest of America, and will influence the future of human freedom

  1. Consider how the U.S. role in the world could be altered if China leads in mining lunar resources and dominates the development and settlement of the Moon.

  2. Consider the impact of such a loss of American leadership on the long-term values of human civilization far into the future.
The Space Exploration, Development and Settlement Act (SEDS) bill would amend the law governing the activities of NASA, known as the NASA Act of 1958, to include this statement:

“Exploration, Development and Settlement of Space.—The Congress declares that expanding permanent human presence beyond low-Earth orbit in a way that enables human settlement and a thriving space economy will enhance the general welfare of the United States and requires the Administration to encourage and support the development of permanent space settlements.”

• HOUSE REQUEST: Will you agree to become a co-sponsor of H.R. 4752 (the SEDS Act)?
  1. Contact Tony DeTora at Rep. Rohrabacher’s office to sign on

• SENATE REQUEST: Will you agree to become a primary sponsor of the Bill in the Senate?