



Briefing from July IODP Town Hall

IODP Town Hall, July 6, 2023

Takeaways from the Town Hall

- Cooperative agreement with Texas A&M for JR operations will end following FY2024.
- The Division of Ocean Sciences **wants** to support scientific sub-seafloor sampling and **needs** that enterprise to be sustainable.
- Science communities drive what research and infrastructure NSF funds within its budget.
- Message to international community: we want to continue longstanding partnerships through a **new financially sustainable model**.
- **Near-future proposals** for SOD activities employing a portfolio of sampling approaches help make the case **for sustained long-term investment**.



Continuous Evolution of Scientific Ocean Drilling

- NSF recognizes the importance of ocean drilling-enabled science in contributing to understanding the broader Earth system
- Need to consider how to meet scientific priorities recognizing fiscal constraints over the next 10 to 25 years.
- In planning for the next generation of SOD, we need to identify science priorities under the framework of the broad oceanographic community and of the Nation's needs. This planning will require **investment** and **continued dialog**.



Looking Forward: On-going and near-future activities

- NSF has and will continue to invest in research using Legacy samples and data from Ocean Drilling Cores
- **Shorter term:** Consider and continue to plan MSP/seabed drilling/deep piston coring expeditions to meet scientific priorities (*we are currently working on an operating model for how to support those activities*).
- Developing an approach for how we support the longer-term vision for sub-seafloor sampling platform or platforms.



Decadal Survey and Scientific Priorities

What is the highest priority science that needs to be accomplished over the next 10 – 25 years?

