

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



# STMD Overview

STIGUR Meeting

Clayton Turner | Associate Administrator | NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

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[nasa.gov/spacetech](https://nasa.gov/spacetech)

# SPACE TECHNOLOGY MISSION DIRECTORATE

*The work we do today is shaping the missions of the future while delivering the cutting-edge technology that defines American leadership in space exploration for years to come*



**ADVANCE** US space technology innovation and competitiveness in a global context



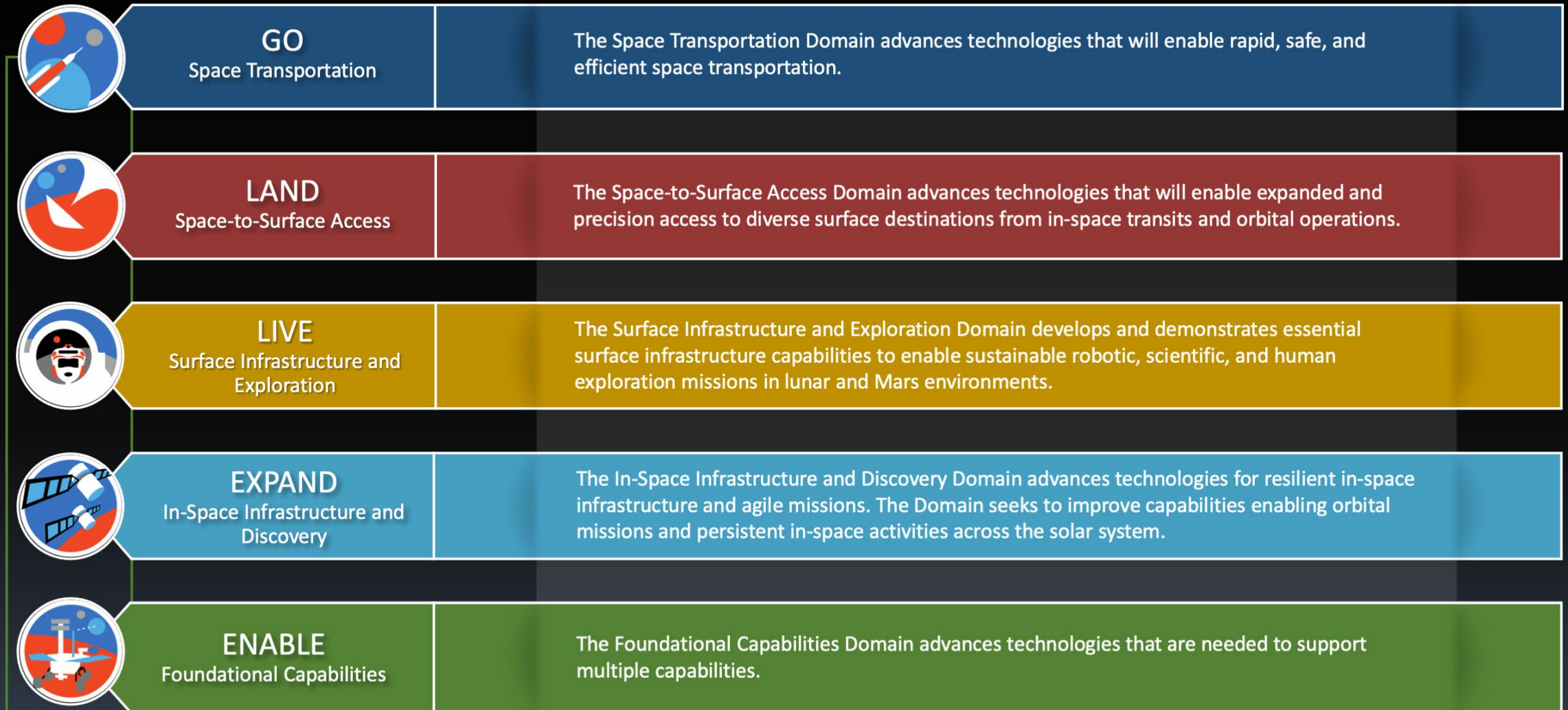
**FOSTER** innovation by cultivating breakthrough ideas, embracing risk, and fueling a competitive space economy



**INSPIRE** a powerful U.S. aerospace technology community to improve life on Earth and in space



# Functional Domains Focused on Capabilities



## CATALYSTS

Innovative Mechanisms

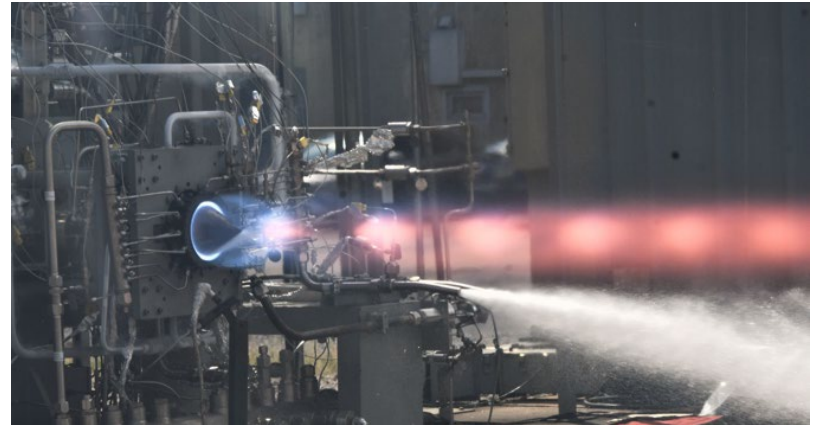
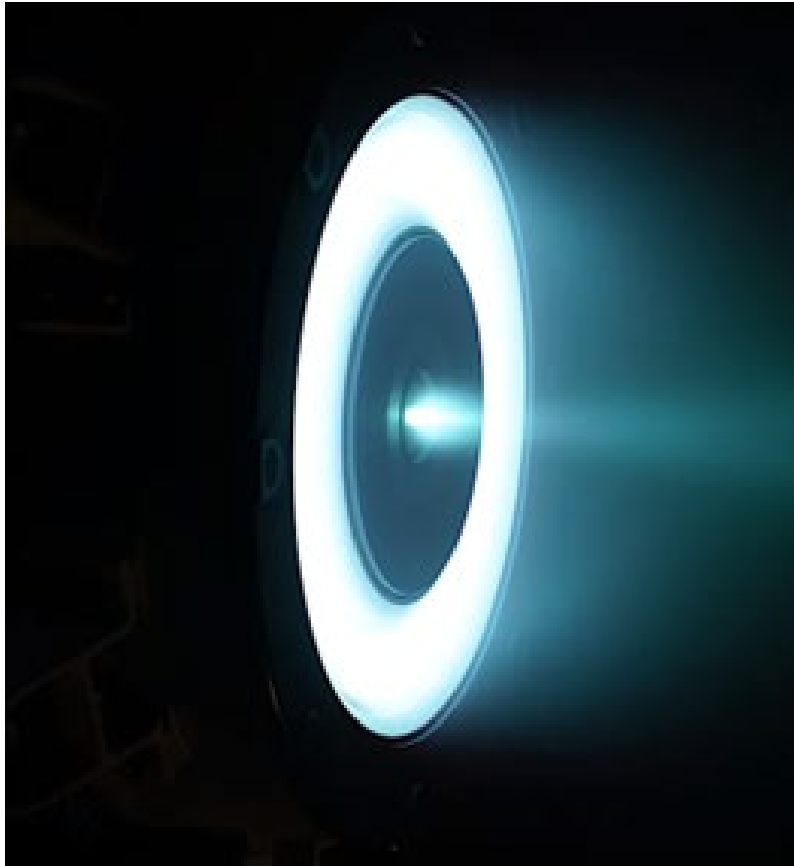
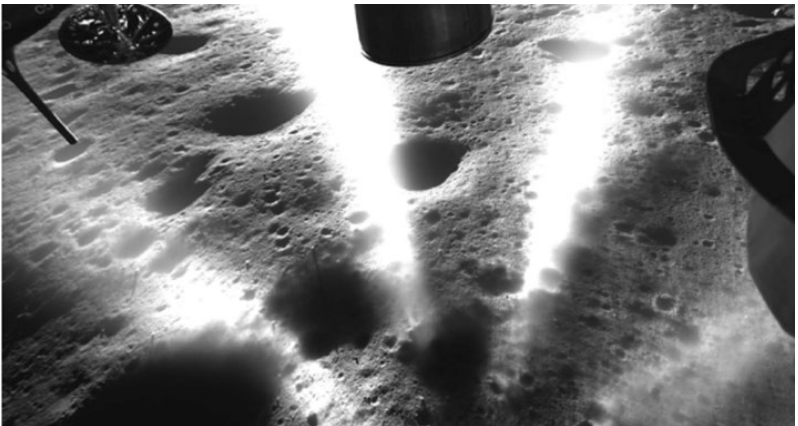
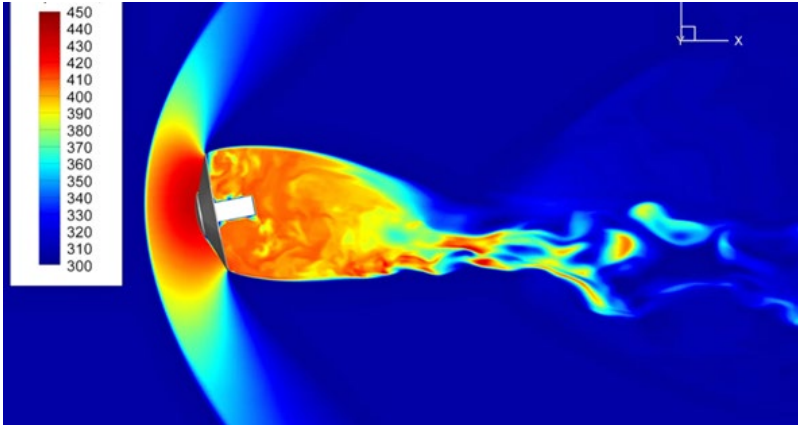
- NIAC/CIF/ECI
- STRG
- PCC
- Tech Transfer
- SBIR/STTR
- Flight Opportunities
- TP/ACO
- IRAD

STMD FY 2026 PBR Summary (\$M)	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
	568.9	568.9	568.9	568.9	568.9
SBIR and STTR	169.0	169.0	169.0	169.0	169.0
Space Transportation (GO)	46.6	53.7	53.7	53.7	53.7
Solar Electric Propulsion (SEP)	7.7	6.6	5.7	1.7	-
Space Transportation Capabilities	38.9	47.1	48.0	52.0	53.7
Space to Surface Operations (LAND)	26.9	26.9	26.9	26.9	26.9
Surface Infrastructure & Exploration (LIVE)	55.7	62.7	62.7	62.7	62.7
In-Space Infrastructure & Discovery (EXPAND)	46.7	46.7	46.7	46.7	46.7
Foundational Capabilities (ENABLE)	49.4	49.4	49.4	49.4	49.4
Catalysts & Innovative Mechanisms (CATALYSTS)	174.6	160.5	160.5	160.5	160.5

# Program Descriptions

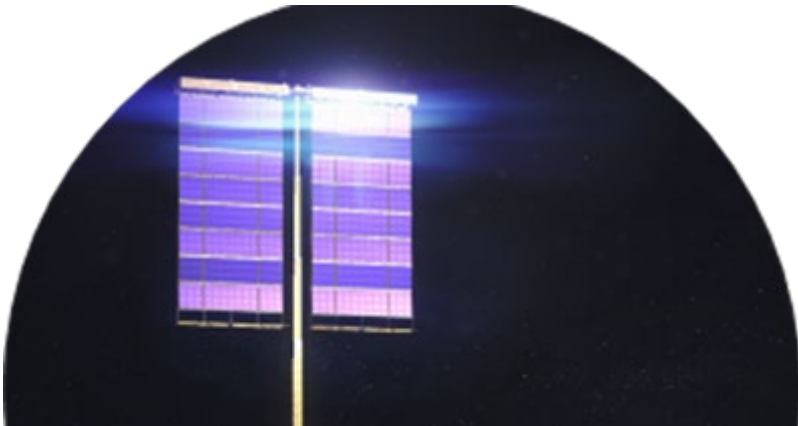


<b>Space Transportation Program</b> <b>(GO + LAND)</b>	Advances technologies that will enable rapid and efficient ascent and in-space transit, as well as expanded and precise access to diverse surface destinations.
<b>Surface Infrastructure Program</b> <b>(LIVE + ENABLE)</b>	Develops and demonstrates essential surface infrastructure capabilities enabling robotic, scientific, and human exploration missions in lunar, Mars, and other planetary environments.
<b>In-Space Infrastructure Program</b> <b>(EXPAND + FLT OPP)</b>	Advances technologies for agile missions and expansion of space commerce. The program seeks to improve capabilities that enable rapid risk-tolerant missions and persistent in-space activities across the solar system.
<b>Catalysts Division</b>	Unique programs and mechanisms that enable NASA to advance breakthrough technologies, forge strategic partnerships, and accelerate innovation to transform future missions and sustain US leadership in space.



# Space Transportation Program (GO + LAND)





# Surface Infrastructure Program (LIVE + ENABLE)



# In-Space Infrastructure Program (EXPAND + FLT Opp)





# STMD Manages Agency-Wide Technology and Innovation Activities

Through **contracts, grants, internal awards, public prize competitions and challenges, flight tests, and Space Act Agreements (SAA)**, Catalyst programs execute activities and projects to help address capability roadmaps and nurture the knowledge and talent base for civil space while also supporting agency level functions.



**Contracts**



**Grants and  
Cooperative  
Agreements**



**Internal Awards**



**Prizes and  
Challenges**



**Flight Tests**



**Funded /  
Unfunded  
Space Act  
Agreements**

**Catalysts Division**

- NIAC/ECI
- STRG

- CIF/IRAD
- PCC

- SBIR/STTR
- Tech Transfer


- TP/ACO
- Crosscutting Services

# STMD Program and Capability Re-Alignment



<b>Space Transportation Program</b> <b>(GO + LAND)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Advanced Propulsion</li> <li>❖ Deceleration Systems</li> <li>❖ Guidance &amp; Navigation Systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Cryogenic Fluid Management</li> <li>❖ Landing Systems &amp; Environments</li> <li>❖ Entry Modeling &amp; Instrumentation</li> </ul>
<b>Surface Infrastructure Program</b> <b>(LIVE + ENABLE)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Advanced Power &amp; Thermal Systems</li> <li>❖ Avionics</li> <li>❖ Advanced Materials, Structures &amp; Manufacturing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Environments &amp; Dust Mitigation</li> <li>❖ Surface Sustainability &amp; Logistics</li> </ul>
<b>In-Space Infrastructure Program</b> <b>(EXPAND + FLT OPP)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Communications, Position, Navigation, &amp; Timing</li> <li>❖ Small Spacecraft &amp; Distributed Systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ In-Space Servicing, Assembly &amp; Manufacturing</li> <li>• <i>Flight Opportunities</i></li> </ul>
<b>Catalysts Division</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NIAC/ECI</li> <li>• STRG</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CIF/IRAD</li> <li>• PCC</li> <li>• SBIR/STTR</li> <li>• Tech Transfer</li> <li>• TP/ACO</li> <li>• Crosscutting Services</li> </ul>



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- A composite image showing a large portion of the Earth on the left, the Moon in the center, and Mars on the right, all set against the black background of space. The Earth shows blue oceans and white clouds, the Moon shows its cratered surface, and Mars shows its reddish-orange hue.
- STMD is shaping the missions of the future while delivering the cutting-edge technology that defines American leadership in space exploration
  - STMD is pivotal to human exploration of the Moon and Mars and science endeavors fulfilling our commitments to industry, government, and academic partners.



SPACE TECHNOLOGY MISSION DIRECTORATE

TECHNOLOGY DRIVES EXPLORATION



REACH  
— NEW —  
HEIGHTS

REVEAL  
— THE —  
UNKNOWN

BENEFIT  
— ALL —  
HUMANKIND