

**U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY**

Charter

TO: Members, Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
FROM: Majority Staff, Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
DATE: June 7, 2018
SUBJECT: Space Subcommittee Hearing: “NASA Cost and Schedule Overruns: Acquisition and Program Management Challenges”

On Thursday, June 14 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 2318 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Space will hold a hearing titled, “NASA Cost and Schedule Overruns: Acquisition and Program Management Challenges.”

Hearing Purpose

The purpose of the hearing is to focus discussion on the Government Accountability Office’s (GAO) [2018 Quick Look report](#) (published on May 1, 2018), this report’s assessments of major National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) projects, and a comparison of this 2018 assessment to cost control and program management trends that GAO and the NASA Inspector General (IG) assessed in previous years. Additional cost control and program management discussion will be gleaned from NASA’s response to the 2018 GAO report and the updated WFIRST space telescope cost estimate required by the FY18 Omnibus and due to the appropriate committees by May 22, 2018. Furthermore, the NASA IG will provide related testimony drawn from prior year audits and reports on the Joint Confidence Level (JCL) process and the management of major projects and programs. This hearing is not intended to restrict discussion to just observed problems. Identifying recommendations for improvement is necessary, especially for assessing the sufficiency of existing appropriation funding authorities, existing cost-estimating methodologies, contracting and other acquisition mechanisms, program management, and incentivizing/disincentivizing good contractor and program management performance.

Witnesses

- **Ms. Cristina Chaplain**, Director, GAO: Contracting and National Security Acquisitions
- **Mr. Steve Jurczyk**, Associate Administrator, NASA
- **Mr. Paul Martin**, Inspector General, NASA
- **Mr. Daniel L. Dumbacher**, Executive Director, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)

Staff Contact

For questions related to the hearing, please contact Dr. Michael Mineiro, Staff Director, Space Subcommittee, Dr. Samuel Amber, Professional Staff Member, Space Subcommittee, or Ms. Sara Ratliff, Policy Assistant, Space Subcommittee, at 202-225-6371.