



JOHN F. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER



NASA LAUNCH SERVICES PROGRAM

ASTROPHYSICS SMALL EXPLORER 2026 ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPPORTUNITY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE JUNE 30, 2026

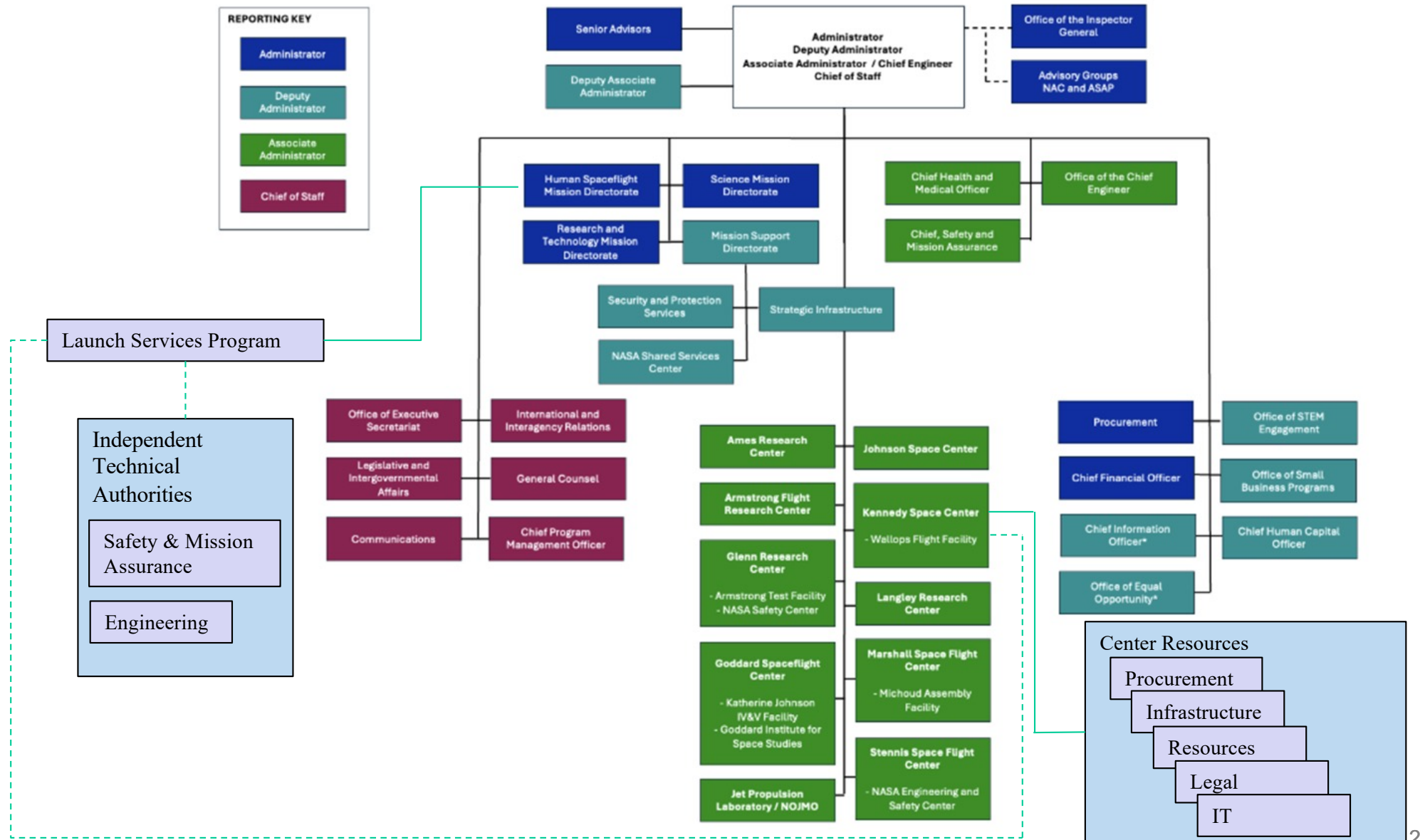
**Genevieve Futch
Launch Services Program
Flight Projects Office**



Launch Services Program Relationships (NASA/HSMD/KSC)



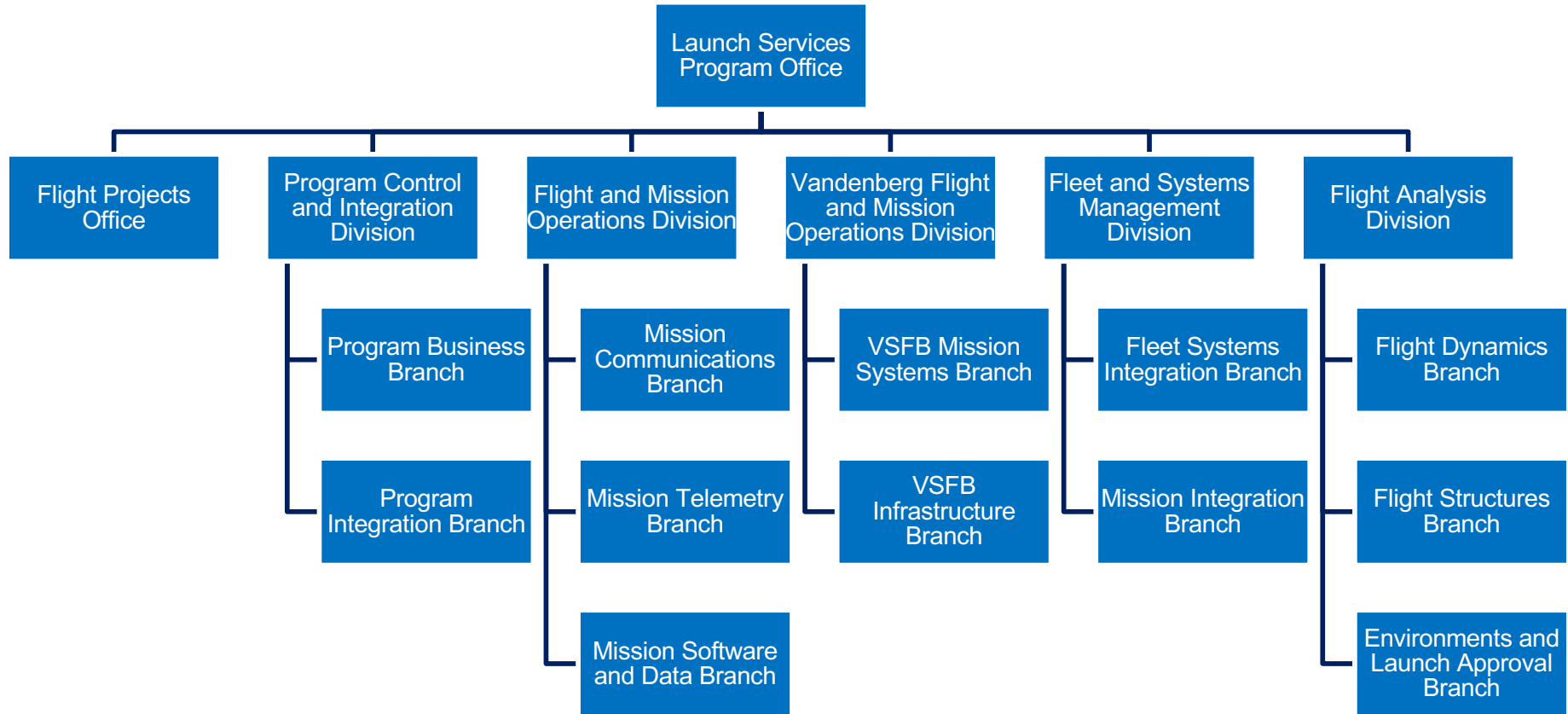
JOHN F. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER



* Reports to Administrator (day-to-day supervisory authority delegated to Deputy Administrator)



Launch Services Program Organization Structure





JOHN F. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

What Does LSP Provide?



- Procurement and management of the launch service
- Technical insight of the launch vehicle production/test
- Coordination and approval of mission-specific integration activities
- Oversight (approval) of mission unique launch vehicle hardware/software development and implementation
- Payload-processing accommodations
- Launch campaign/countdown management and formal readiness reviews



JOHN F. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

Options Available for this AO and Included Launch Services



- Two scenarios are available to proposers for this Astrophysics Small Explorer AO. Both scenarios include a standard launch service, which includes:
 - The launch vehicle, engineering, analysis, and minimum performance standards and services provided by the NLS II contract in place at the time of launch vehicle selection.
 - Mission integration
 - Launch Site Payload Processing
 - Range Support
 - Down Range Telemetry support (launch vehicle data only)
 - Standard Mission Uniques – these are items typically necessary to customize the basic vehicle hardware to meet spacecraft driven requirements. Already budgeted for are items like:
 - » Payload separation system
 - » Grade B GN2 or pure air purge prior to T-0
 - » ISO 14644-1 Class 7 integration environment



JOHN F. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

Costs Not Covered by Astrophysics Explorer Program



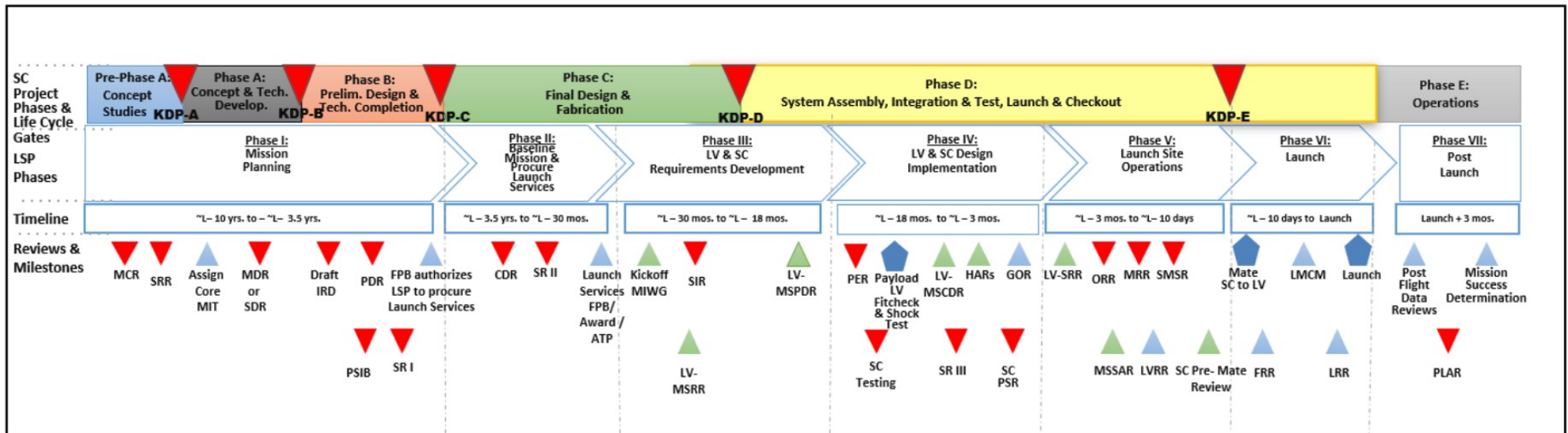
- Examples of costs not covered by the Astrophysics Small Explorer Program:
 - Custom/uncommon payload adapters or separation systems
 - Auxiliary propulsion
 - PI/Payload caused launch delays
- Alternative Access to Space arrangements are NOT available under this AO
- For more details on what is and isn't included, reference the 2026 Astrophysics Explorer Program AO Launch Services Program Information Summary document in the AO library.



Launch Vehicle Acquisition



- The acquisition of a NASA-provided domestic expendable launch vehicle proposed for this AO will be procured and managed by the NASA Launch Services Program (LSP) via the NASA Launch Services II (NLS II) contract.
- The LSP will competitively select a launch service provider for these missions based on customer requirements and NASA Flight Planning Board (FPB) approval.



Printed documents may be out of date; please validate with the LSP Flight Projects Office (FPO) prior to use. Update: June 2024

Spacecraft reviews shown in red.



JOHN F. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

Summary



- It is the Launch Service Program's goal to ensure the highest practicable probability of mission success while managing the launch service technical capabilities, budget and schedule.
- LSP POC for Astrophysics SMEX 2026 AO:

Genevieve Futch
Mission Manager
NASA Launch Services Program Code VA-C
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899
Email: Genevieve.Futch@nasa.gov