



October 17, 2019

## **Space Update from Representative Bill Posey**

Those of us who call the Space Coast home have space running through our veins. From my days working in the Apollo program to my service now on the U.S. House Space Subcommittee, I am committed to advancing American space leadership here in Brevard and nationally. We continue to see transformational space investments right here in our community as a robust and more diverse space program takes root. Bottom line: Space is booming!

Building our space program around a priority of returning to the Moon within five years while advancing commercial, civil and military space launch capabilities is driving billions of dollars in local investments and innovation leading to the creation of thousands of space-related jobs right here in our community.

**For decades, the Space Coast was the place to launch while rockets, engines and satellites were too often built elsewhere. The good news is that, the intensity of rocket manufacturing and refurbishment has been growing rapidly and the Space Coast is the beneficiary of this development.**

Here are just a few of the direct benefits:

- Record low unemployment - Brevard County is 3.4% (down from 11.3% nine years ago);
- Boeing is relocating the headquarters of its Space and Launch division to Titusville and investing in new facilities;

- Lockheed Martin has been moving its fleet ballistic missile headquarters to Titusville with over 1,000 direct and indirect long-term jobs;
- Billions of additional dollars have been invested in Blue Origin and SpaceX rocket manufacturing and processing facilities on the Space Coast;
- Northrup Grumman will be assembling and prepping its OmegaA rocket at NASA's Vertical Assembly Building;
- Sierra Nevada continues to move forward with its Dream Chaser International Space Station cargo plans;
- Satellites and components are being manufactured at OneWeb and supplier facilities around Titusville bringing hundreds of new high-paying jobs; and
- In just a few short months we will see a return of human space launch as Boeing's Starliner and SpaceX's Dragon begin astronaut launches to the International Space Station.

NASA's Artemis program aims to have astronauts returning to the Moon by 2024 and Boeing's Space Launch System (SLS) Lockheed Martin's Orion spacecraft are the programs of record to take us there.

With the expansion, arrival, and increased investment by these companies in our district, we are rapidly becoming a part of the supply chain economy.

**We recently secured a \$90 million U.S. Department of Transportation grant to replace the aging Indian River Bridge which is essential for space-bound and returning freight.** This aging bridge is deteriorating and will soon be unable to carry space-bound or returning freight. For more than a year I have been working with Space Florida, Senators Rubio and Scott and U.S. Transportation Secretary

Chao to secure this critical funding and it is great to see this now moving forward.

While we are making bold progress at home to secure the Space Coast as the world's go to place for space launch, we continue to face unfair competition from foreign competitors who are subsidized by their governments. We must continue working to combat this while also removing barriers for American companies who build and launch their vehicles from here.

**We have a saying in our office: "We sell Space every day in every way!"** Our efforts are paying off and I'm very optimistic about the direction we are heading. We have really turned a corner and are taking great strides to secure our future in the space economy.

It is an honor to serve you in Congress. Please visit [www.posey.house.gov](http://www.posey.house.gov) or call (321) 632-1776 for more information on my work in Congress, to sign up for our E-newsletter, or to participate in telephone town hall meetings. If I may be of service to you in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a large initial "B".

Bill Posey  
Member of Congress

*This update was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense. It is provided as a service to 8th Congressional District constituents.*