

Overview of Commercial Space Transportation and FAA Licensing

Prepared for: *Georgia State House
Subcommittee on Commercial Space*

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**Federal Aviation
Administration**

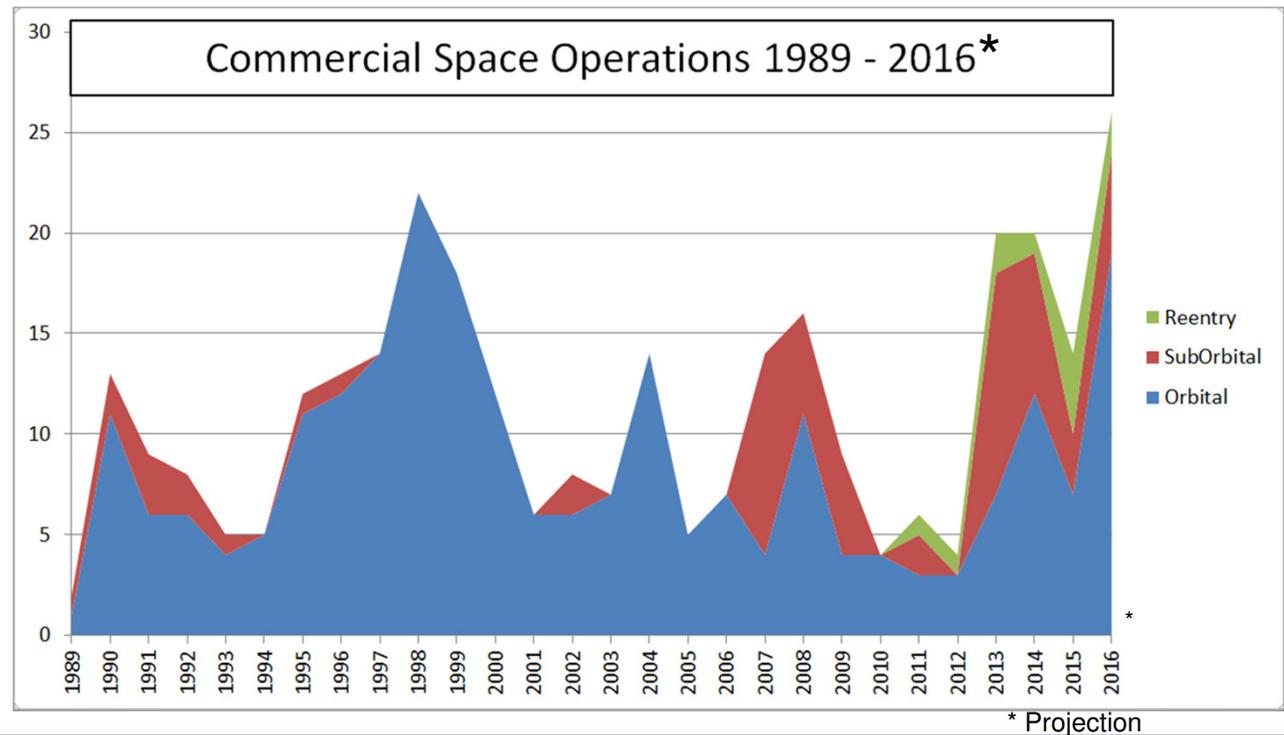
*Office of Commercial
Space Transportation*



Commercial Space Transportation

- The [Office of Commercial Space Transportation \(AST\)](#) was formed in 1985 (in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation); joined FAA as line of business in 1995
- Mission: *To ensure protection of the public, property, and the national security and foreign policy interests of the United States during commercial launch or reentry activities, and to encourage, facilitate, and promote U.S. commercial space transportation*

- Commercial Space Transportation regulations in place since the 1990s
 - [Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations](#)
- More than 300 authorized launches and reentries with no public safety impacts



What types of activities is FAA/AST involved in?

- Commercial Launch/Reentry Licenses
- Commercial Launch Site Licenses
- Experimental Permits
- Safety Approvals



Expendable Launch Vehicles (ELV)



Air Launch (ELV)



Launch Sites



Reusable Launch Vehicles (RLV)

U.S. Launch Sites – “Spaceports”

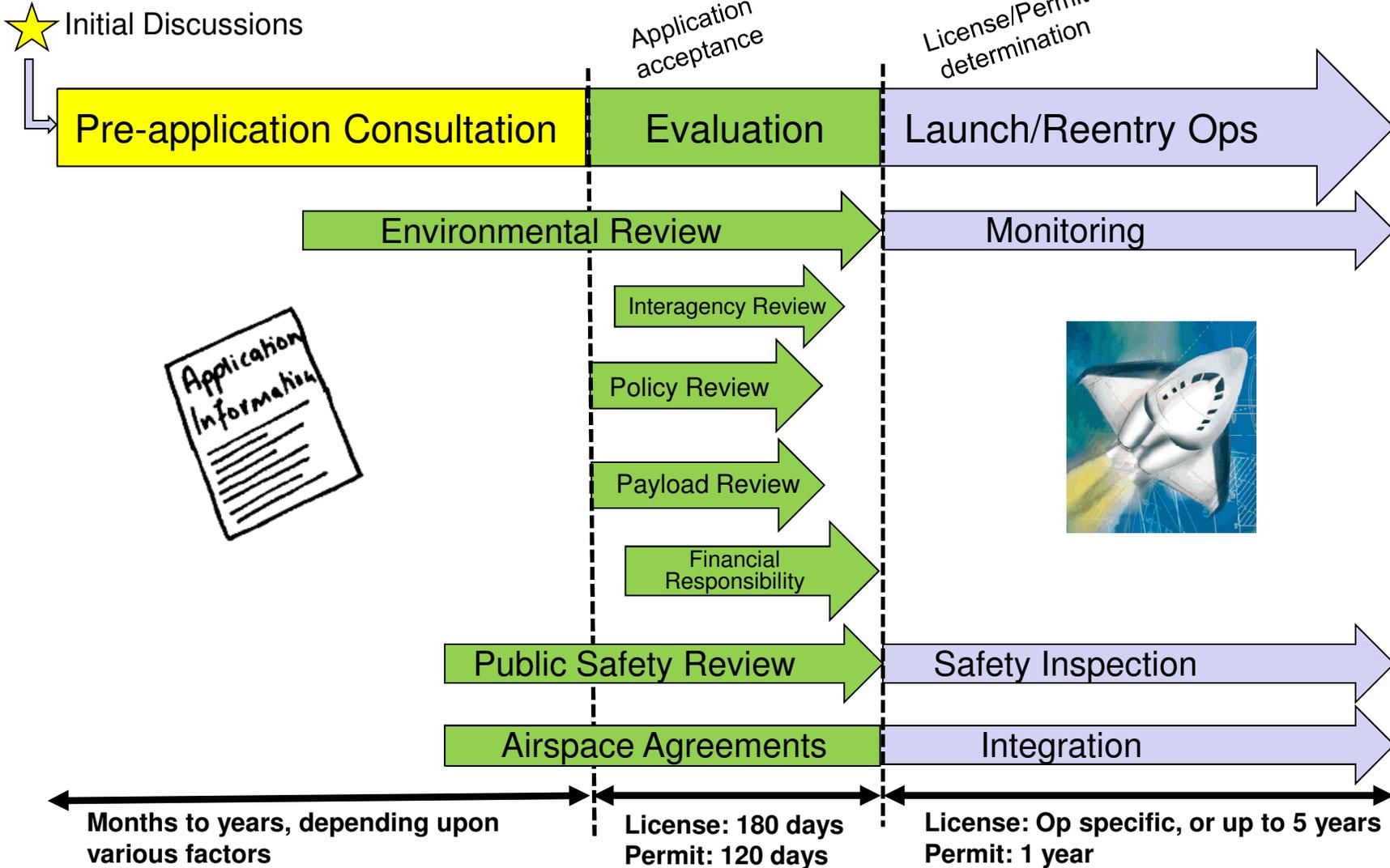
Key

- ◆ Federal Launch/Landing Site
- FAA-Licensed Launch Site
- Exclusive Use Sites



From Application to Operation:

FAA Licensing & Permitting Process Flow



Questions?

