

NASA

Mars Exploration Program Update

Planetary Science Subcommittee

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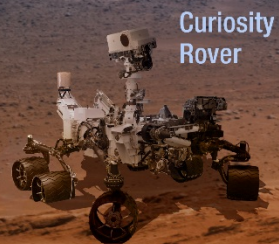


Operational 2001–2016

2018

2020

2020s



Follow the Water

Explore Habitability

Seek Signs of Life

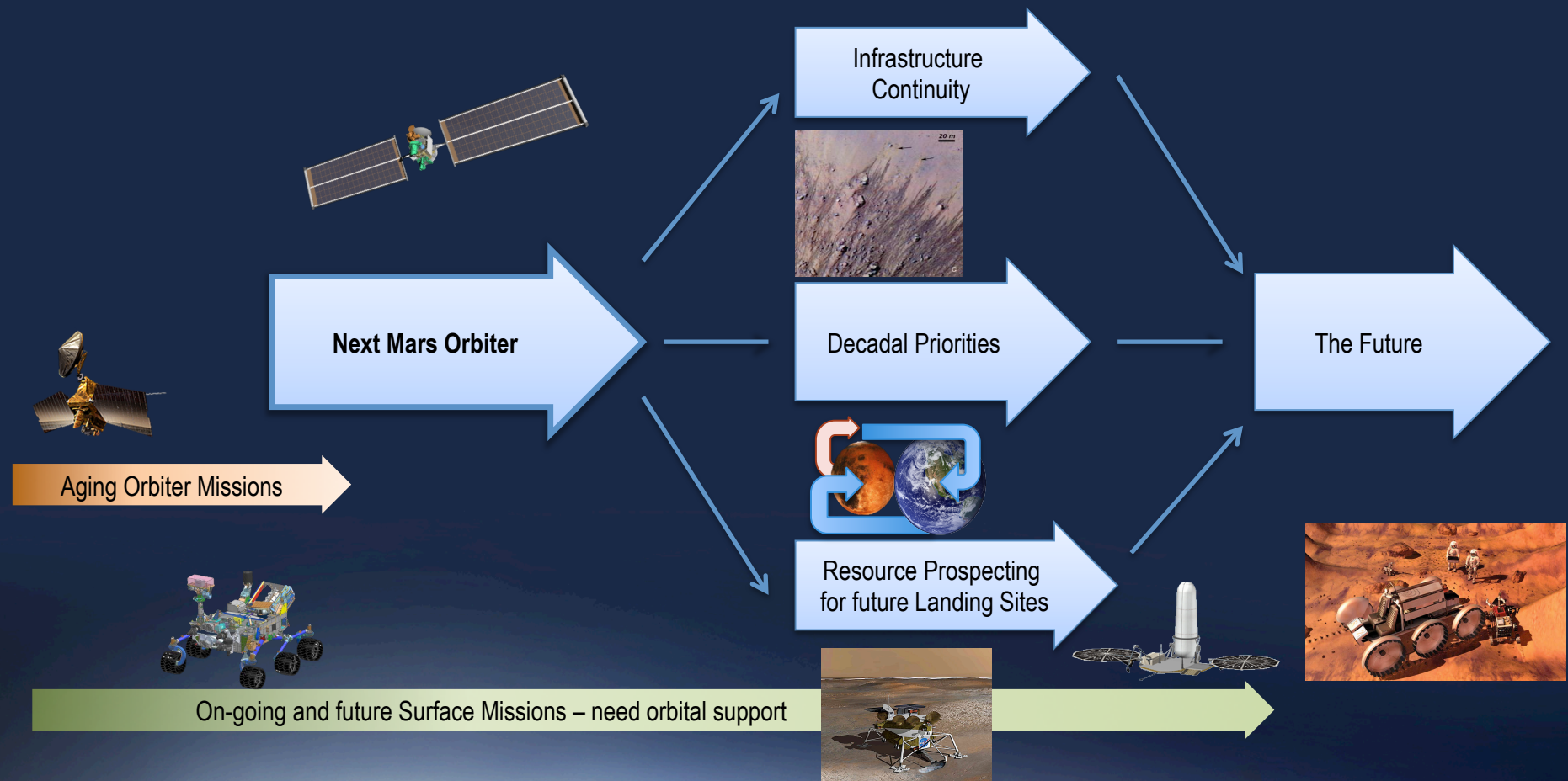
Prepare for Future Human Explorers

Strategic View Forward

- US National Research Council (NRC) Planetary Science Decadal Survey (2012) gave the highest priority to “elements of the Mars Sample Return Campaign”
- The Mars 2020 mission and its payload begin this process with the characterization of a site and the careful selection and documentation of a suite of samples acquired and encapsulated for return
- The President’s NASA Budget Request for FY2017 provides \$10M to begin early work on a future Mars orbiter missions beyond 2020 – with an emphasis on emplacing the infrastructure for the next decade

MEP planning strives to integrate these realities into a viable plan for the future

Next Orbiter Can Provide Capabilities that enable Many Future Pathways



Timely Renewal and Enhancement of Infrastructure is needed to Support Future Missions