

**1<sup>st</sup> Information Circular - Revised**  
**9<sup>th</sup> Virtual MEPAG Meeting (VM9) \*NEW TIME\*: Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
11:00 am-1:00 pm PDT | 2:00 pm-4:00 pm EDT

Members of the Mars community,

We thank the members of the community who have expressed concern regarding the date of the next virtual meeting (VM9) of the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG) conflicting with the date of Juneteenth. The original June 19<sup>th</sup> date for the next VM was necessary if the community was to be aware of preliminary MASWG findings and recommendations so that they could potentially inform white papers before they were due. Scheduling in the week of June 22-26 was not initially possible due to a M2020 Thread Test and a virtual harassment prevention workshop. With a truncation of the M2020 Thread Test and the relaxation of the white paper deadline to July 15, June 26 is now an open date for the main agenda item, which is the MASWG presentation. Moving to that date gives the community a bit more notice of this important meeting, while removing a conflict with those who wish to participate in Juneteenth (June 19) activities to work for the rights of African-Americans.

So, **Friday, June 26, 2-4 p.m. EDT (11 a.m. to 1 p.m. PDT)** is the new date for VM9.

The **Mars Architecture Strategy Working Group (MASWG)** was chartered by NASA as part of the Agency's response to a recommendation by the National Academies Mid-Term Decadal Survey committee to develop "a comprehensive Mars Exploration Program architecture, strategic plan, management structure, partnerships (including commercial partnerships), and budget that address the science goals for Mars exploration...". The outlines and status of MASWG activity have been reported at earlier MEPAG meetings.

MASWG has now developed preliminary findings and recommendations. In order to inform the Decadal Survey white paper process, the committee wishes to present to the Mars community for feedback and discussion in a two-hour MEPAG virtual. The MASWG chair, Dr. Bruce Jakosky (U. Colorado-LASP), will make the presentation. The presentation will be made available on the day of the meeting. Logistical information for the webex meeting is given below and will be confirmed in a later announcement. Comments made either online (through the chat box) or by email after the meeting will be considered along with those from external reviewers as the committee works to finalize the report for delivery to NASA.

WebEx connection information is below. This meeting is open to all members of the Mars science community including our international colleagues, and I look forward to your participation. This meeting will be recorded and posted for those who are unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Dr. R. Aileen Yingst

MEPAG Chair

If you have a comment or question about the meeting, please email [MepagMeetingQs@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:MepagMeetingQs@jpl.nasa.gov).

## **Webex connection information**

1) Join Meeting: <https://jpl.webex.com/jpl/j.php?MTID=mb2518604f9535709425e9e75cbf80a1b>

2) Meeting number (access code): 199 676 1239 Meeting Password: MEPAG

3) To join audio – you can stream the sound through your computer speakers. Or (recommended) you can listen in via phone:

- By having WebEx call you; or
- call in: +1-510-210-8882 USA Toll or Global call-in numbers.

4) All call-ins will be muted upon entry (to reduce noise on the line), and only listed speakers should be unmuted. To ask a question or make a comment, please use the Webex chat box – time permitting, these will be verbally relayed to the presenters.

*Having trouble joining the meeting? Contact WebEx support here: <https://jpl.webex.com/jpl/mc>. Other meeting issues or post-meeting comments? Email [MepagMeetingQs@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:MepagMeetingQs@jpl.nasa.gov).*

**Additional meeting information, including the agenda, will be posted to <https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm>.**