

# Strategy, Policy and Governance Subcommittee

Report to the PNTAB

24 April 2024

# PNT Governance for a Changed World

Despite the widely acknowledged, pivotal importance of state-of-the-art PNT technology to America's economy and national security, the structure and governance of our PNT program no longer seems adequately responsive to today's challenges.

# An increasingly challenging environment

GPS continues to meet core PNT needs of the DOD, other government agencies and the broader public, but its growing vulnerability to disruption demands greater attention in “protecting, toughening and augmenting” GPS services and users.

# Vulnerability an increasing concern

Domestic US lack of PNT resilience is a significant concern. A priority focus for PNT efforts across the USG should be on addressing vulnerabilities in domestic “critical infrastructures.”

# PNT: A critical enabler in great power competition

For many years, GPS was the acknowledged leader in space-based PNT. Today, however, U.S. leadership is beginning to erode in terms of services, performance, global adoption and strategic benefit.

If unchecked, this decline will have serious strategic consequences for the U.S.

# Time for a PNT governance “reset”

The 20-year-old PNT EXCOM interagency coordination structure is no longer adequate to address increasingly complex and strategically important PNT issues across the whole of government.

# What's needed?

First, we need a high-level declaration that America's PNT capability is both an element of the country's critical infrastructure and an important factor in the country's standing in the emerging great power competition. ("GPS+"?)

Second, PNT decision-making needs a formally centralized, fully empowered locus of responsibility capable of:

- addressing today's challenges more urgently, including the accuracy, resilience, and geopolitical importance of America's PNT assets, and
- advocating more effectively the funding necessary to accelerate future developments in keeping with current challenges.

# Role of the PNTAB

Consistent with its current charter, continue to:

“... evaluate national and international needs for changes in space-based PNT capabilities, assess possible trade-offs among options, and provide independent advice and recommendations to the PNT EXCOM on requirements and program needs.”