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Elon Musk To Unveil 'Hyperloop' 4000MPH Mega Train On August 12

Huffington Post UK | By Michael Rundle

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Abstract image of light waves in deep tunnel. Getty

The billionaire inventor, investor and futurist Elon Musk is set to unveil his detailed plan for a 4,000mph 'mega train' known as the Hyperloop to connect the east and west coasts of the United States.

Musk [is the co-founder and CEO](#) of electric car makers Tesla, as well as the private company SpaceX.

But while you might think a man with two companies, five children and [dreams of founding his own colony on Mars](#) might be busy enough, [with a networth estimated at around \\$2.7 billion](#) turns out he can still find the time, and money, to look for new problems to solve.

This time his idea is based on a principle [that's been around for more than a 100 years](#) but is now becoming functional, large-scale pneumatic tube train which could propel passengers underground

at unimaginably fast speeds.

The Hyperloop was [described by Musk earlier this year](#) as "a cross between a Concorde, a railgun and an air hockey table" and would be both relatively low energy and safe, since the system would be totally self-contained.


While such a system would be beautiful to behold - and capable of sending passengers to LA from New York in 45 minutes - it would also be hugely expensive.

But Musk points out that given the extravagant cost of California's already-underway \$70 billion 'high speed' rail system - which is the slowest on the planet when finished - the US can afford to think more creatively about its transport problems.

"What you want is something that never crashes, that's at least twice as fast as a plane, that's solar powered and that leaves

when you arrive, so there is no waiting for a specific departure time," he said previously [when asked about the system](#).

At least one company is already [working on a similar idea](#), and so it's unclear where Musk fits into the scheme. But he now says he will publish his designs on August 12, as an 'open source' resource to anyone who wants to get involved.



Elon Musk
@elonmusk

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Will publish Hyperloop alpha design by Aug 12. Critical feedback for improvements would be much appreciated.

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We'll have to wait until then to see what he's come up with. But knowing Musk's work, it will probably turn out to be more insane more realistic - than you can reasonably imagine.