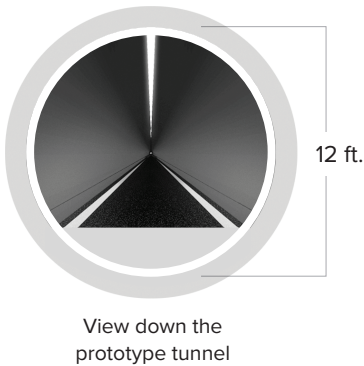


June 28, 2019

# Boring Company promises rapid automated commute from D.C. to Baltimore in 15 minutes

Elon Musk’s Boring Company has proposed a D.C.-Baltimore 70-mile round trip “loop” tunnel designed to enable nonstop, high-speed underground travel of autonomous electric vehicles, or AEVs. Still in the planning stages, the privately-funded loop is one of several Boring Company infrastructure projects under development.

If realized, the system would cause minimal disruption at the surface, according to the company’s draft environmental assessment, which is currently open to public comment through the Federal Highway Administration.

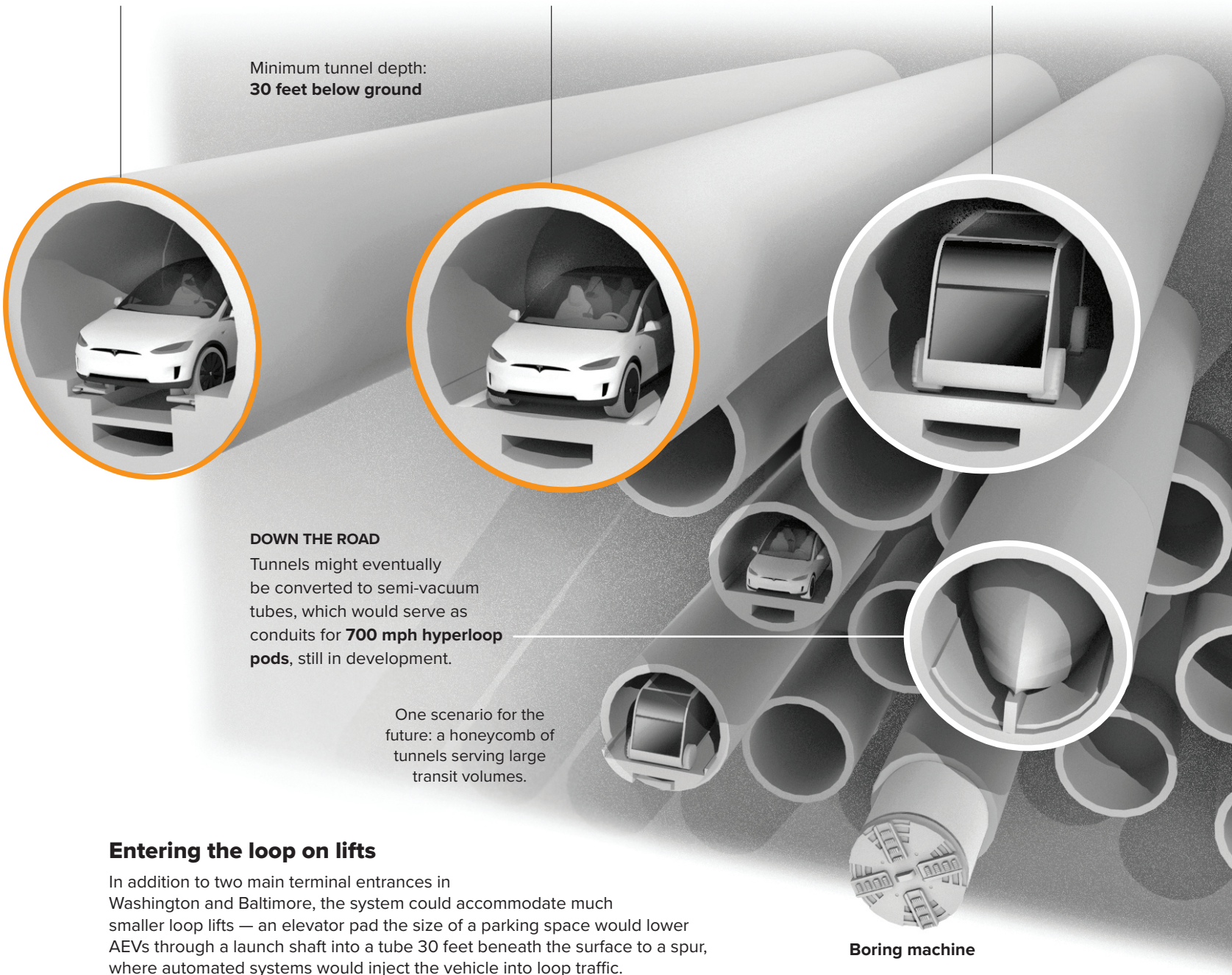


## About the “Loop”: A twin high-speed, single-track tunnel with the potential for more

Boring Company’s initial prototype in Hawthorne, Calif., included guide wheels operating within a groove to keep electric vehicles on track.

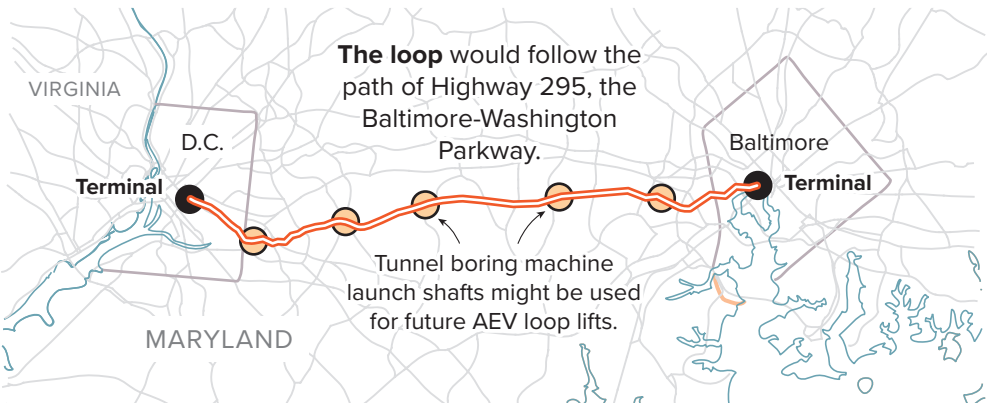
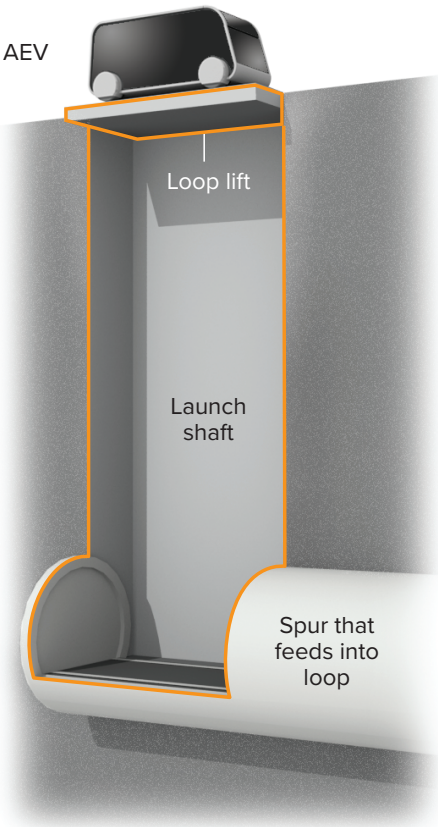
A recent video on the company’s website records a car in the same test tunnel traveling at 127 mph on fresh pavement.

Boring envisions company-operated battery-powered AEVs capable of carrying passengers at 150 mph. The loop would be managed by an automated central command system.



## Entering the loop on lifts

In addition to two main terminal entrances in Washington and Baltimore, the system could accommodate much smaller loop lifts — an elevator pad the size of a parking space would lower AEVs through a launch shaft into a tube 30 feet beneath the surface to a spur, where automated systems would inject the vehicle into loop traffic.



## Boring’s transit estimates

**Travel time** between terminals near Union Station (D.C.) and Camden Yards (Baltimore): **15 minutes**

**Ridership: 1,000 passengers per day in each direction**, using reservations booked with an online registration system. With additional loop stations, the Boring Co. says tunnels could carry more than 100,000 per day.

**AVG. DAILY COMMUTERS**, according to 2009-2013 community survey data  
Baltimore to D.C.: **~5,000**  
D.C. to Baltimore: **~1,200**

## How long would digging the tunnels take?

In 2017, Musk’s boring machines could tunnel at a pace of about 300 feet per week. At that rate, 12 machines working nonstop could complete the 70-mile loop in about two years.

Sources: Boring Company, DOT, Maryland DOT, Census Bureau

By Patterson Clark, POLITICO Pro DataPoint

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