

## California High-Speed Rail: A “Zero Gravity” Fly over Golden State?

We are all hoping for the success of California high-speed rail (HSR) in the near future. I used to work for Taiwanese HSR. It is very important to capture public attention for a project like this. The following suggestion can be at least a publicity campaign effort to bring the curiosity, interest and possibly, the partnership of the businesses all over the world.

The future California HSR can be very different from any others by providing an optional “weightless” ride. So, it’ll serve not only as a mass transportation system like in Europe and some Asian countries, but also an amusement attraction for tourists to experience zero gravity like astronauts in space. This may sound crazy at first. The idea is not so radical after giving some deeper thought. After all, NASA is doing similar practice routinely for a long time.

An optional side track can be built to follow a parabolic path, making use of the terrain, tunnel and bridge structures in order to make it like a projectile trajectory. Weightlessness can be achieved by adjusting speeds of the train on the track. With the speed of the train in the range of over 200 miles per hour, more than fifteen seconds of zero gravity inside the trains is possible. This is fun enough for any thrill seeker. There are varieties of land shapes along the proposed routes. 3-Dimensional terrain maps can be used to find optimal sections to construct this fun ride.

California is known for its tourist attractions and innovations in the industry. This is a chance to bring the world’s imagination into the future!

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