

Meet the artist and collector whose crafts inspire open dialogue.



POLITICS

Trump attends SpaceX Starship launch in Texas with CEO Elon Musk

PUBLISHED TUE, NOV 19 2024 • 12:43 PM EST UPDATED AN HOUR AGO



Lora Kolodny
[@IN/LORAKOLODNY/](#)

[WATCH LIVE](#)

KEY POINTS

President-elect Donald Trump attended a SpaceX launch in Texas with company CEO Elon Musk.

The launch was the sixth for SpaceX's Starship, the largest rocket ever built.

Trump has tapped Musk, who also heads Tesla and who was a major backer of the Republican's presidential campaign, to oversee an effort to improve government efficiency.



U.S. President-elect Donald Trump walks with Elon Musk before attending a viewing of the launch of the sixth test flight of the SpaceX Starship rocket, in Brownsville, Texas, U.S., November 19, 2024.

Brandon Bell | Via Reuters

President-elect [Donald Trump](#) attended Tuesday's launch of the [SpaceX](#) rocket [Starship](#) with company CEO [Elon Musk](#).

"I'm heading to the Great State of Texas to watch the launch of the largest object ever to be elevated," [Trump wrote](#) on Truth Social, wishing Musk luck along with all the "great patriots" involved in the launch ahead of the event.

Trump's presence at the SpaceX facility underscores his increasingly close relationship with the mega-billionaire Musk, whose political action committee heavily backed the Republican in the recent election.

Trump has tapped Musk to co-lead a new advisory commission called the Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, with former Republican presidential contender [Vivek Ramaswamy](#).

Since Trump's election win, Musk has been a nearly constant presence at Trump's side at his Mar-a-Lago club in Florida, ranking some Trump team insiders, [NBC previously reported](#).

Tuesday's launch at SpaceX's Starbase site in Boca Chica was the sixth for Starship, the largest rocket ever built.

The uncrewed spacecraft took off from the company's facility near Brownsville, Texas. SpaceX aimed to catch the rocket's "Super Heavy" booster once again with its launch tower, but instead the booster splashed down in the Gulf of Mexico.

Starship was designed to be a reusable vehicle for flying cargo and people beyond Earth.

SpaceX won a multibillion-dollar contract from the federal government to use Starship as a crewed lunar lander as part of NASA's Artemis moon program.

Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, also attended Tuesday's launch. Cruz is the incoming chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over space-related issues.



SpaceX's next-generation Starship spacecraft atop its powerful Super Heavy rocket is prepared for launch at the company's Boca Chica launchpad, near Brownsville, Texas, U.S., November 16, 2024.

Joe Skipper / Reuters

SpaceX has received \$19 billion from the federal government since 2008 and is poised to take in several billion per year, for years to come, according to research on federal spending and prime contracts by FedScout.

The Environmental Protection Agency previously found that SpaceX had [violated the Clean Water Act](#) during prior Starship launches by discharging hot, industrial wastewater without a permit at their launch facility.

boom so powerful it risks property damage in the densely populated residential community near its South Texas launch site,” according to a report on the data by [The New York Times](#).

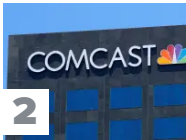
SpaceX and [Musk](#) were vocally critical of the Federal Aviation Administration before Trump’s election, urging the regulator to speed up its license reviews for Starship flights.

In September, Musk threatened to sue the FAA for “regulatory overreach.”

TRENDING NOW



51-year-old earns over \$70,000 in one of the most in-demand jobs in the U.S.—and it doesn’t require a degree



Comcast will announce the spinoff of cable networks Wednesday, CNBC source says



Trump picks Dr. Oz to lead massive Medicare and Medicaid agency CMS



Russia says Ukraine attacked it using U.S. long-range missiles, signals it’s ready for nuclear response



SpaceX completes sixth Starship flight, splashes down both booster and spacecraft

Sponsored Links by Taboola

FROM THE WEB

If you have a mouse, play this game for 1 minute and see why everyone is addicted.

Combat Siege

Why You Should Get An Unsold Camper Van

Camper Van Deals | Search ads

[Learn More](#)



FROM CNBC

**Jim Cramer on why
RFK Jr. could
upend HHS**

.....

**Food stocks under
pressure after
Trump taps RFK Jr.
for HHS secretary**

.....

**Milei is a Mar-a-
Lago VIP as Musk,
Trump embrace
attacks on
government
spending**

.....

**Caroline Kennedy
calls Trump HHS
pick RFK Jr.'s
vaccine views
'dangerous'**

.....

**Most Chinese
prefer Trump to
Harris, strategist
says**

**Jim Cramer on
what he thinks is a
'bad reason' to own
Tesla**

.....

FROM THE WEB

**Here Are 29 of the Coolest Gifts for This
2024**

Sponsored : Trending Gadgets

.....

**Abrir o vinho com saca-rolhas é o pior
erro que você pode cometer. O motivo? É
surpreendente!**

Sponsored : Dicas de Vinho Blog

.....

**Leia isto antes da sua próxima compra
na Amazon!**

Sponsored : Karma Shopping

MORE IN POLITICS

**Elon Musk attends Trump's
meeting with House Republicans
in D.C.**

Vaughn Hillyard, Kevin Breuninger



House Ethics panel to meet on Trump AG pick Matt Gae...

Dan Mangan

House Speaker Johnson says ethics report on Matt Gaetz is a ‘rough draft’

View 1 :

Trump Defense pick investigated in 2017 for alleged sex assault; no charges filed

Dan Mangan

What Rubio has said about the U.S.’ enemies — and its allies

Halle Elzeatt

FROM THE WEB

by Taboola

Premiado agridor de vinhos de pressão chega ao Brasil. O preço? É surpreendente

Sponsored Dicas de Vinho Blog



Isso é mais potente que lavadoras de pressão sem...

Sponsored Dicas e Truques

Remote Jobs in the USA from Brazil: Salaries That Will Astonish You!

Sponsored Remote Jobs | Search Ads

Banco do Brasil deve manter média de dividendos em 2025

Principal pagador de dividendos entre os bancos nos últimos anos, BBAS3 promete proventos de dois dígitos em 2025

Sponsored Inteligência Financeira

[Leia mais](#)

Mais de 2 milhões de clientes usam e aprovam Luuna

Garantia total e de até 10 anos. Garanta seu Luuna com descontos incríveis!

Sponsored Luuna

[Clique aqui](#)

FROM THE WEB

by Taboola

Mini dispositivo sem fio é mais forte que lavadoras de pressão sem eletricidade ou torneiras

Sponsored Dicas e Truques

Glicemia acima de 100? Tente essa receita caseira...

Sponsored Saúde Hoje

Você sabia que existem 5 empresas que nunca deram prejuízo na bolsa?



Sponsored Inteligência Financeira

[Leia mais](#)

Moving to Germany from Brazil To Study Might be Easier Than You Think

Sponsored Study in Germany | search ads

[Learn More](#)

Osso contra osso? Esta joalheira "biônica" vai ajudar a renovar seus joelhos.

Revolução ortopédica: Ameniza dores nas articulações e nos joelhos.

Sponsored Dicas Saudáveis

[Comprar agora](#)

MORE FROM CNBC

Elon Musk's xAI raising up to \$6 billion to purchase 100,000 Nvidia chips for Memphis data center

[Hayden Field](#)

RFK Jr. is Trump's pick to lead HHS — here's what he...

[Annika Kim Constantino](#)8

Here's why Trump's tax plans could be 'complicated' in 2025, policy experts say

[Kate Dore](#) [CEP](#)4

Jim Cramer weighs Nvidia stock after report of Blackwell AI chip overheating

[Julia Coleman](#)

Cramer says an RFK Jr.-run HHS ultimately won't tank junk food and drug industries





[Subscribe to CNBC PRO](#)

[Licensing & Reprints](#)

[Supply Chain Values](#)

[Join the CNBC Panel](#)

[News Releases](#)

[Corrections](#)

[Internships](#)

[Ad Choices](#)

[Help](#)

[Subscribe to Investing Club](#)

[CNBC Councils](#)

[CNBC on Peacock](#)

[Digital Products](#)

[Closed Captioning](#)

[About CNBC](#)

[Site Map](#)

[Careers](#)

[Contact](#)



News Tips

Got a confidential news tip? We want to hear from you.

[GET IN TOUCH](#)

Advertise With Us

[PLEASE CONTACT US](#)

CNBC Newsletters

Sign up for free newsletters and get more CNBC delivered to your inbox

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

Get this delivered to your inbox, and more info about our products and services.

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Cookie Notice](#)

[CA Notice](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

© 2024 CNBC LLC. All Rights Reserved. A Division of NBCUniversal

Data is a real-time snapshot *Data is delayed at least 15 minutes. Global Business and Financial News, Stock Quotes, and Market Data and Analysis.

[Market Data Terms of Use and Disclaimers](#)

Data also provided by



