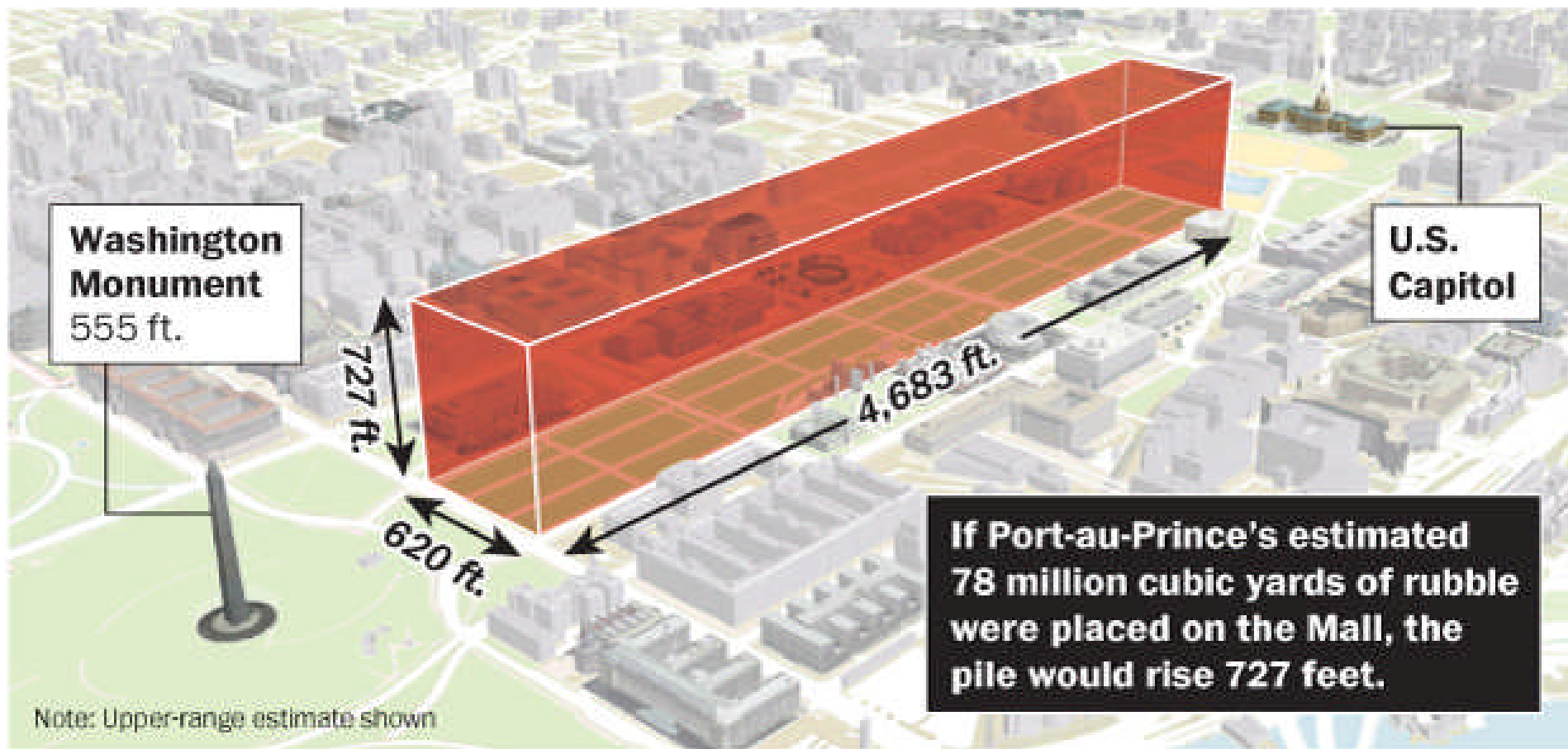


# Strategising Rubble Removal

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*Source: Washington Post*

Despite that Big-Picture graphic, until now discussion of rubble removal within the Shelter sector has concentrated upon the small-scale

- The principle of individual participation in rubble removal
- The 'Right to Rubble'
- Single-household machines for processing rubble for re-use

There are also sectoral texts which give reminders of some of the large-scale hazards...

- Health hazards
- Environmental concerns over proper disposal

But these don't give much positive strategic guidance for what to do

Strategising rubble-removal is just like  
strategising for any other aspect of  
humanitarian Shelter and Reconstruction  
Programming:

- With scarce resources, and not enough time, how to maximise the impact of the resources and efforts
- How to have some sort of Multiplier-Effect?

# Approaches Which Aren't Strategic

- Removing first the rubble in the neighbourhoods patronised by local civil society groups with pre-existing relationships with international NGO
- Removing first the rubble from sites which have become high-profile media symbols of the problems of relief and recovery, whilst those sites do not actually contain a high percentage of the population in need
- Providing scatter-shot support to rubble-removal done by individual families or small groups, on a first-come-first-served basis, resulting in lots of little pockets of rubble-free plots, and no one street which is cleared in its entirety

# Strategic Priotising – 1

Clear the rubble first from the main commercial artery roads, as this will be the best way to get the major cogs of the economy moving again

# Strategic Priotising – 2

Clear the rubble first from all of the local retail and produce markets, as this will be the best way to get the personal economies of the affected population moving again



# Strategic Priotising – 3

Clear the rubble first from around the schools, as this will give the greatest spur to return to normal life, and the informal markets will cluster anew around the schools anyway

# Strategic Priotising – 4

Clear the rubble first from around the municipal buildings first, as the municipalities and the communities need to have as much unimpeded access to each other as possible

# Strategic Priotising – 5

Clear the rubble first from all of the streets near the brick-makers, the welding workshops, and the hardware shops, as these will be at the forefront of the street-level accelerated reconstruction

# Strategic Priotising – 6

Clear the rubble first from the neighbourhoods identified in pre-disaster urban planning as neighbourhoods targeted for increased population growth, as these cleared areas will then be the places to which people move and begin their own reconstruction

# Strategic Priotising – 7

areas surrounding water supply points, as those points will then form the backbone of efforts to support displaced families return to their homes

# Strategic Priotising – 8

Clear the rubble first in directions heading away from neighbourhoods which need to re-engage with the rest of the city at their own pace, whether for reasons of protection, or possibly reasons associated with built cultural heritage, rather than household livelihoods recovery

# Thank You!

Please visit

[http://resilienturbanism.org/guest\\_blogger/rubble-removal-strategies/](http://resilienturbanism.org/guest_blogger/rubble-removal-strategies/)

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