

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# To preserve and protect in perpetuity

As I'm writing this message, we have just concluded a very successful Committee Days back in the Chicago area. Based on the feedback we received, PCI is in fine form. I want to thank the many volunteers, committee members, associate suppliers, and, of course, the great PCI staff for a wonderful event. Being back in Chicago, many thanks go to Jim Voss and JVI and to the Concrete Chefs for hosting a wonderful evening of fine food and fellowship.

During the week there was a lot of discussion about PCI's body of knowledge. As members know, 2025 has been a historic one in the evolution of the body of knowledge with the publication of *Structural Precast Concrete—Code Requirements and Commentary* (ACI/PCI 319), the first precast concrete building code. But that is hardly the only new publication to be recently produced or updated, with several more scheduled for publication by the year's end, including the ninth edition of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete*. Thanks to the volunteer members and PCI staff who continue to help manage and grow our industry body of knowledge.

With the publication of the code and many other standards, PCI is now committed to setting time lines for updating some of these publications to meet code cycles and other requirements. We also continue to endeavor to update aging publications in a timely manner as well. (My saying to staff is, "We shouldn't have any publications old enough to drink or drive!")

At the recent meeting of the PCI Board of Directors, PCI technical staff members made a dramatic demonstration of the extent of our body of knowledge by stacking our many publications, manuals, journals, and so forth on a table at the front of the room. The point was to demonstrate the vast amount we have to manage and, more importantly for the board to recognize, the ongoing resources in both money and staff that are necessary to preserve and advance our body of knowledge—forever. The publication of the code and new standards is not the finish line; it is just the beginning.

At the meeting, the staff unveiled for the first time a list of all of PCI's publications, which committee owns them, when they were last published, and target dates for the next version. It is the first time that this information was gathered in one place. As part of the upcoming strategic plan, staff members will assign direct costs and staff costs to each publication out to 2037. We plan to add all of our online webinars, education, and other materials as well. The purpose of this is to demonstrate to current and future boards the ongoing commitment it takes to maintain our body of knowledge in perpetuity and to do it in a timely and organized fashion. I can't think of a more important exercise for the institute. [J](#)



Bob Risser, PE  
PCI President and CEO