



From the Executive Director...



As they say, all good things must come to an end, and so it is for my time with the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC). I have decided to retire from state service at the end of July. And while the retiree's life in a rocking chair seems inviting, I have too much left in my tank to go that route. Instead, I will be joining the International Code Council to assist with their sustainable codes program.

To leave a job that one enjoys is a tough decision and it is one that I did not take lightly. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve the people of this great State as Executive Director of the CBSC. The challenges have been many but as we all know, with challenges come opportunities. Fortunately, we have been able to turn those opportunities into successes.

After joining CBSC my first directive was to bring the California Building Standards Code up to date and to do it in record speed. At the time, California's building codes were based on the 1997 model codes, nearly ten years behind. We managed to establish the 2007 triennial set of codes, which brought California up to date and significantly reduced the time it takes to complete the code adoption cycle.

Other successes include the adoption of PEX and CPVC plastic pipe. Issues surrounding the use of plastic pipe for potable water use began in the early 80's. We were also able to successfully implement provisions of SB 1473, which provided resources for code education and training with an emphasis on green building standards.

Another significant achievement was the development, adoption and publication of CALGreen, the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code. CALGreen is the first statewide green building code. We began work on CALGreen in 2007 with a goal of having a code with mandatory measures in place by 2010. CALGreen became effective on

January 1<sup>st</sup> of this year and implementation statewide has been relatively smooth.

CALGreen was clearly our largest effort and we were told by many that we could not accomplish our goals in the timeframe established. Despite several organizations' attempts to ensure that CALGreen would not be successful and the many other challenges that come with code development, CALGreen is a success.

Ultimately, nothing at this level can be successful without teamwork. All of our projects have been successes due to the ongoing collaborative efforts of the public and private parties involved. I will always be proud that I was a part of the team that brought California back into a leadership role in the world of Codes and Standards.

I could try to list the names of the people, both past and present, that have been part of the team but I know I would inadvertently leave someone out. However, I want to give a deeply heartfelt thank you to everyone that was part of the team. I also want to especially say thank you to those that had the faith in me to allow me to be a part of the Team.

It has been a special time for me. I have been blessed! I will miss everyone!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Wall". The signature is written in black ink and has a fluid, connected style.