

# Design Tip: Size Matters

*For improved constructability and an enhanced user experience, give your cast-in-place concrete garage a more spacious feel.*

## DESIGN FOR HIGHER CLEARANCE

Adding a few inches to the clearance beneath long-span beams and the height of the garage provides several benefits with nominal cost. The higher perceived ceilings enhance user comfort. Plus, those added inches improve constructability by expanding “head clearance” code tolerances and alleviating similar concerns that can occur with:

- Transitioning ramp grades.
- Drainage, drain slopes and locations.
- Post-tensioned (PT) beam crowns or deflection.

If garage building height restrictions prevent this step, shallow and widen the long-span beams to achieve similar benefits.

## INCREASE BAY SIZES

Wider bays of 27 to 30 feet improve constructability and user comfort. They allow for evenly distributed lighting with fewer fixtures and enable open visibility to signage. Clearly visible signage is essential for effortless wayfinding, providing the driver a straightforward path for navigation even as one turns through internal ramping. Wider bays open the sight lines for signage to be mounted on the beamsides. Because there is no need to extend signs below the beams, the risk of damage from tall vehicles is minimized.

