

Happy New Year! Are you ready to think about a springtime project? Maybe a new house, or an addition? Do you want to renovate your kitchen or some other spaces in your home? Well, now is the time to start planning. Believe it or not, you should spend as much time planning as you will under construction.

There are several things you can do that will ensure your project is a success. First, hire professionals. Architects, engineers, surveyors, and builders are all important professional with which to open a dialog. As an architect, I guide my clients through their project bringing in other professionals needed to achieve success.

Second, make as many decisions as possible before the start of construction. How much money do you intend to spend? How much space do you want to build? And, what will be the quality of these spaces? Do you have an architectural style in mind? When working with a client, I try to get answer these question before I start designing.

This brings me to the third most important thing to do to achieve success. You must develop a good design and a good set of construction documents. The design ensures you, the client, you are getting exactly what you want. While traversing the design process you will make decision on everything that will be incorporated into the project. Thorough construction documents will ensure solid bids and that your project is built as intended. This process can take 2-8 months depending on the size of the project

The fourth and final stage of planning is putting the project out for bid. It is imperative to find a good contractor. I usually suggest getting 2-3 bids and meeting with the contractor to go over the numbers. Give the contractors time to get bids from their sub-contractors. This process may take up to 6 weeks, but is worth it to get good solid bids.

So, let's recap. Are you thinking of a springtime project? Now is the time to start planning because spring is just around the corner. Now is the time to give me a call! I would be happy to talk to you more about your potential project!