MUELLER HOMES
Est. 1992
Handcrafting Homes For Your Lifestyle

QUESTIONS TO ASK AN ARCHITECT

We believe that builder and architect collaboration is essential to the overall process. Genuine collaboration between an architect, a builder, and a homeowner can truly create a work of art! Over the past 30 years, we have found that the collaborative approach provides the best experience possible with varied and necessary input, experience, and ideas from both the builder and architect. Here are some questions to ask the architect:

- [ ] How many custom homes have you designed? View their portfolio. Are they capable of designing the type of home you desire?
- [ ] What is the average budget and square footage, of the homes you design?
- [ ] Who will be the primary point of contact on my project?
- [ ] How will you help me ensure that the home we design can be built within my desired budget?
- [ ] What has been your experience working with builders? (Ensure a collaborative, productive approach.) Do you consult with builders during the design phase?
- [ ] If the lot has special considerations (i.e. waterfront, zoning, etc.), what is your experience with lots that have these issues?
- [ ] What is your fee structure for a project of this type?
- [ ] How often do you communicate with the builder durng the project and how do you resolve challenges or issues that arise? (Does the response indicate collaboration and a solutions-oriented approach?)

QUESTIONS TO ASK AN ARCHITECT

- [ ] Tell me about the specifications and budgeting process - at what point do you typically involve the builder and how does that process work? (Ideally, your builder is involved early to ensure the designs will align with your budget.)

- [ ] Will you help me create **detailed** specifications to ensure an apples to apples comparison? What is the cost for this service and/or can I have the builder provide this service?

- [ ] Describe how you approach the pricing or bidding process for builders.

- [ ] Describe your level of involvement in the construction process. If I am comfortable with my builder's experience, is this an area for cost/fee reduction or can this simply be billed hourly as needed?

- [ ] How do you bill for extra work or any redesigns that may be required?

- [ ] Obtain 3 recent client references. Ask their references:
  - How did the architect work with the builder?
  - How did the architect respond to the client?
  - Who was their primary point of contact and were they easy to work with?