Building Sustainably

Challenges in the Home Renovation Industry

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Facts

- Carbon Footprint of Buildings
 - 39% CO2 emissions
 - 40% energy consumption
 - 13% water consumption



- 1992 DOE and EPA initiated the ENERGY STAR Program
- 1993 U.S. Green Building Council founded
 - 1998 launched LEED

Residential Construction

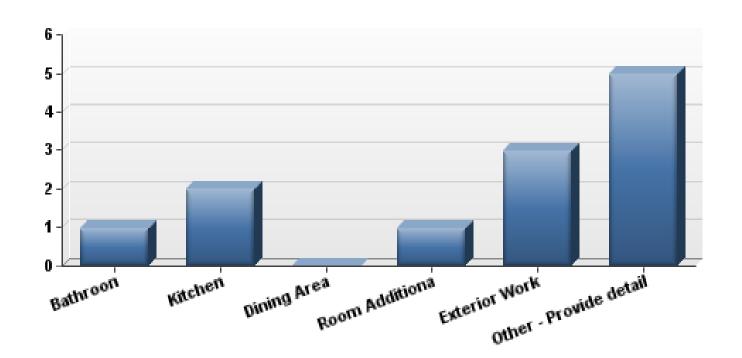
 Conventional construction still constitutes the majority of homes built today

 Green homes limited to a few major developers and boutique architectural firms

 80 times more LEED Certified Commercial Space than LEED Certified Homes

Survey Findings

 Purpose – to determine what influences peoples' decisions during home renovations



Survey Findings

- Energy savings are important to homeowners
 - 44% of respondents said energy was a criteria in their project
- Homeowners are most familiar with Energy Star program, less so with LEED
 - All respondents had at least heard of Energy Star
 - 6 were completely unfamiliar with LEED
- Architects and General Contractors do not drive sustainability
 - 2 respondents said architects proposed sustainable options and 3 respondents answered same for general contractor.

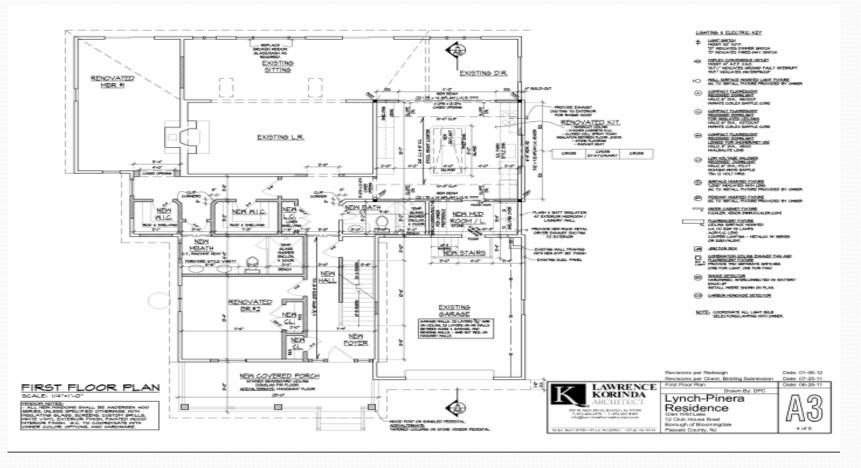
Industry Experts Comments

- "Industry resistant to change"
- "Why take on risk?"
- "Clients are only interested in the upfront cost"
- "Green means more Green (\$)"
- "All that glitters is not gold"
- "Why install low flow faucets when you don't pay for water"

Case Study



Walking the Walk Renovating Sustainably



Home Renovation

- Objective Renovate sustainably using green materials and processes
- Areas of Focus
 - Contractor and Architect Selection
 - Construction Waste
 - Energy Conservation and Efficiencies
 - Material Selection

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Architects and General Contractors need more exposure to Sustainable Building practices
 - USGBC should reach out to conventional practitioners
 - Governmental organizations need better outreach programs
 - Architects and energy experts need to partner

Results

Successes

- General Contractor
- Energy Audit
- Energy Efficiencies
- Building Envelope
- Energy Star Appliances
- Donations

Challenges

- Architect
- Other Contractors
- Cabinet Selection
- Construction Debris Recycling



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