

The Candy Store Capital Guide

A strategic roadmap for budgeting, capital expenditure, and operational runway.



Strategic Financial Blueprint | Jan 2026 – July 2026

Launch Requirements & Economic Reality

Launching is not just about opening the doors; it is about securing the cash buffer to survive the ramp-up. The total capital requirement acts as your life support system until profitability.



\$844,000

Total Cash Requirement



1

BREAKEVEN DATE

July 2026

(7 Months post-launch)



2

PAYBACK PERIOD

22 Months

(Time to recoup investment)



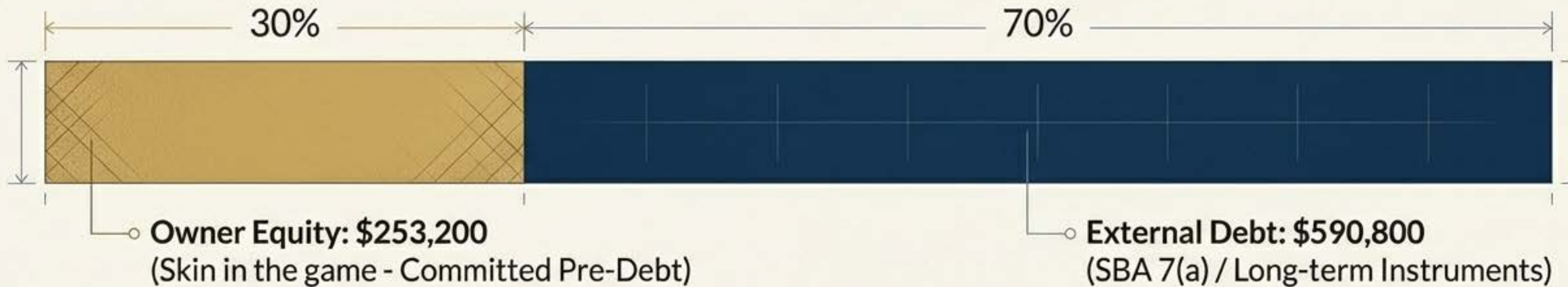
3

YEAR 1 EBITDA

-\$3,000

(Projected Loss)

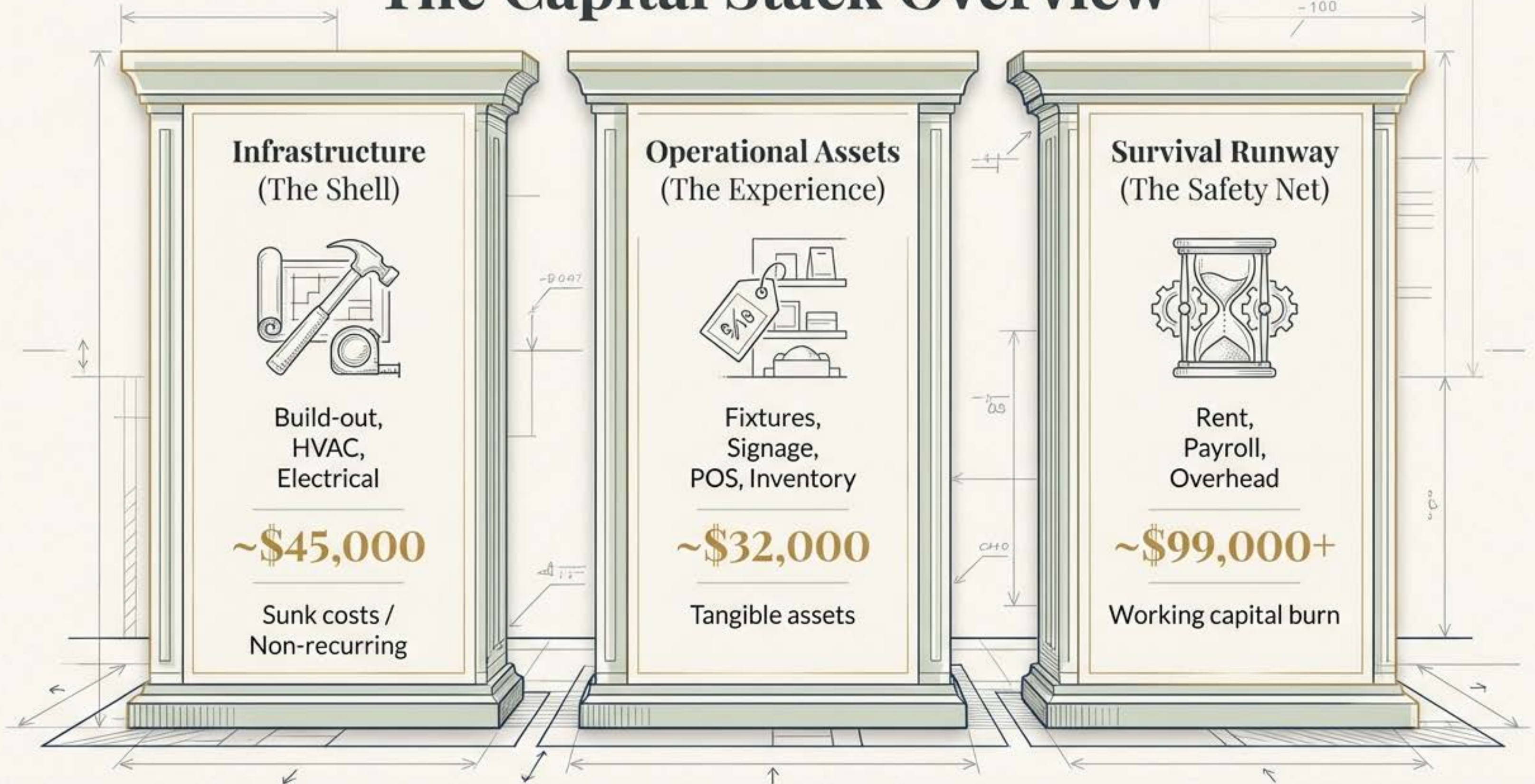
The Funding Mix: Equity Before Debt



The Contingency Layer

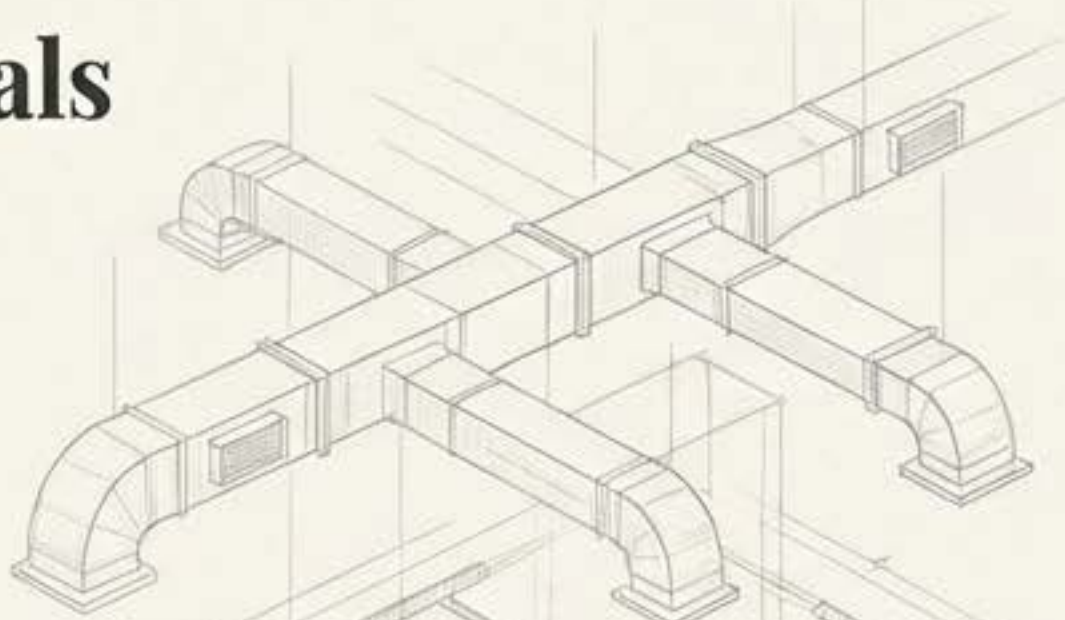
Establish a \$100,000 Line of Credit (LOC) for immediate buffers. If tenant improvements exceed projections by >15%, or leasehold improvements take >90 days, accelerate the LOC draw schedule.

The Capital Stack Overview



Infrastructure & Build-Out: Jan-Mar 2026

Financials



Store Build-out: **\$40,000**
Cooling/Refrigeration: **\$5,000**

Total: \$45,000

Checklist & Strategy

Critical Actions

- **Q1 2026:** Secure firm quotes for Plumbing, Electrical, and HVAC.
- **Cooling:** Non-negotiable for Gourmet Chocolates. Verify temperature stability.
- **MEP Integration:** Ensure electrical drops for coolers are installed before final inspection.

Cost Control

Get three detailed bids to compare scope creep. Avoid changes after work starts.

The 'Front of House' Experience

Timeline: Feb-April 2026

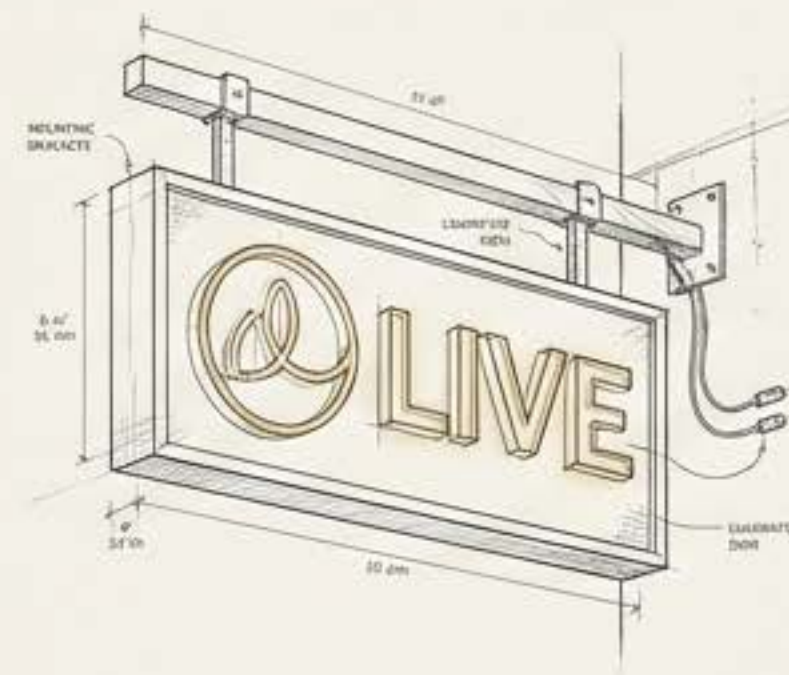
Fixtures



\$15,000

Prioritise standard, modular shelving over bespoke designs to save cash. Use restaurant supply liquidators for bulk dispensers.

Signage & Branding



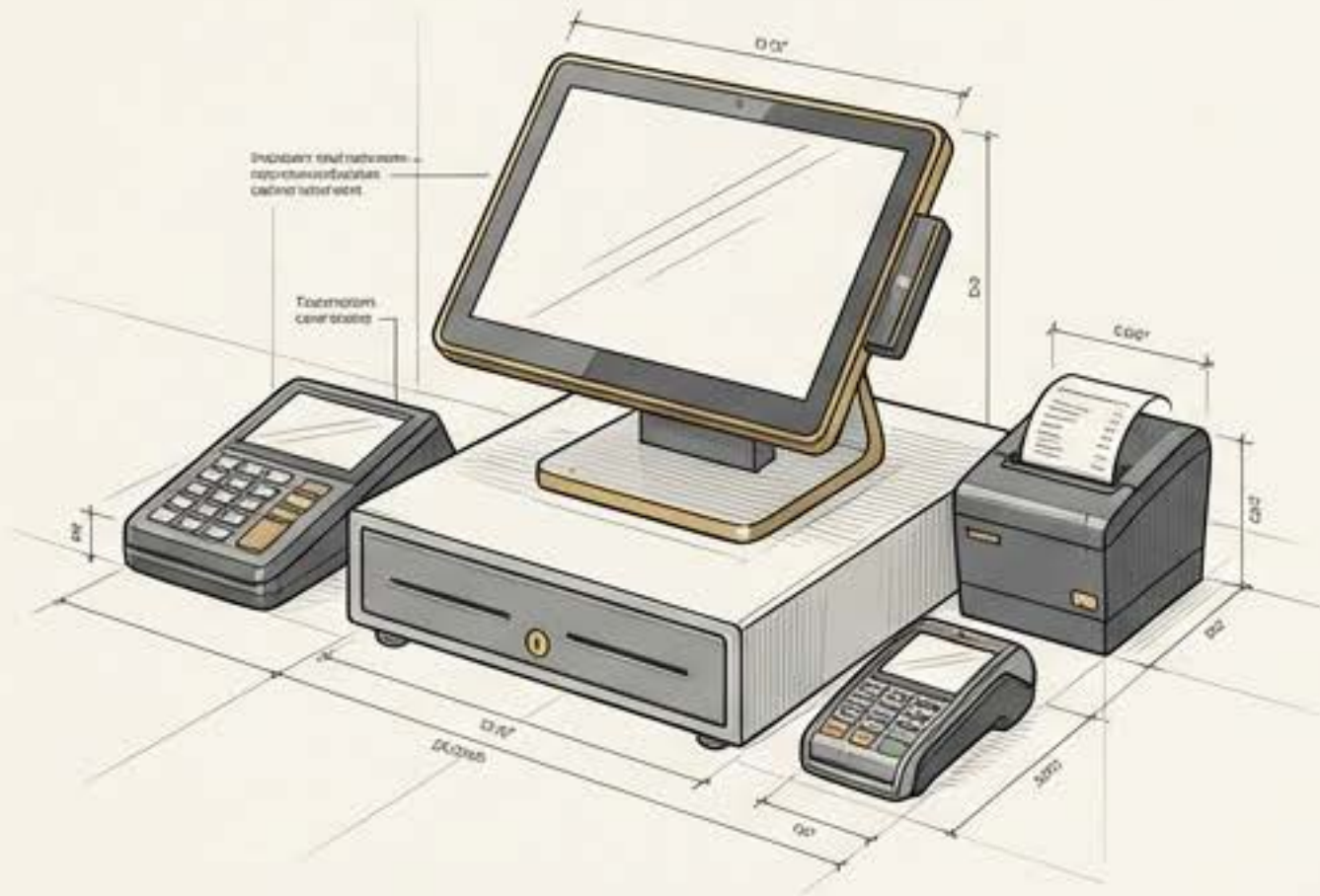
\$4,000

Prioritise illumination and visibility over complex fabrication. Lock vendor by Feb 15 to ensure installation before opening.

Total Visual Spend: \$19,000

Operational Systems & Initial Inventory

The Engine (POS)

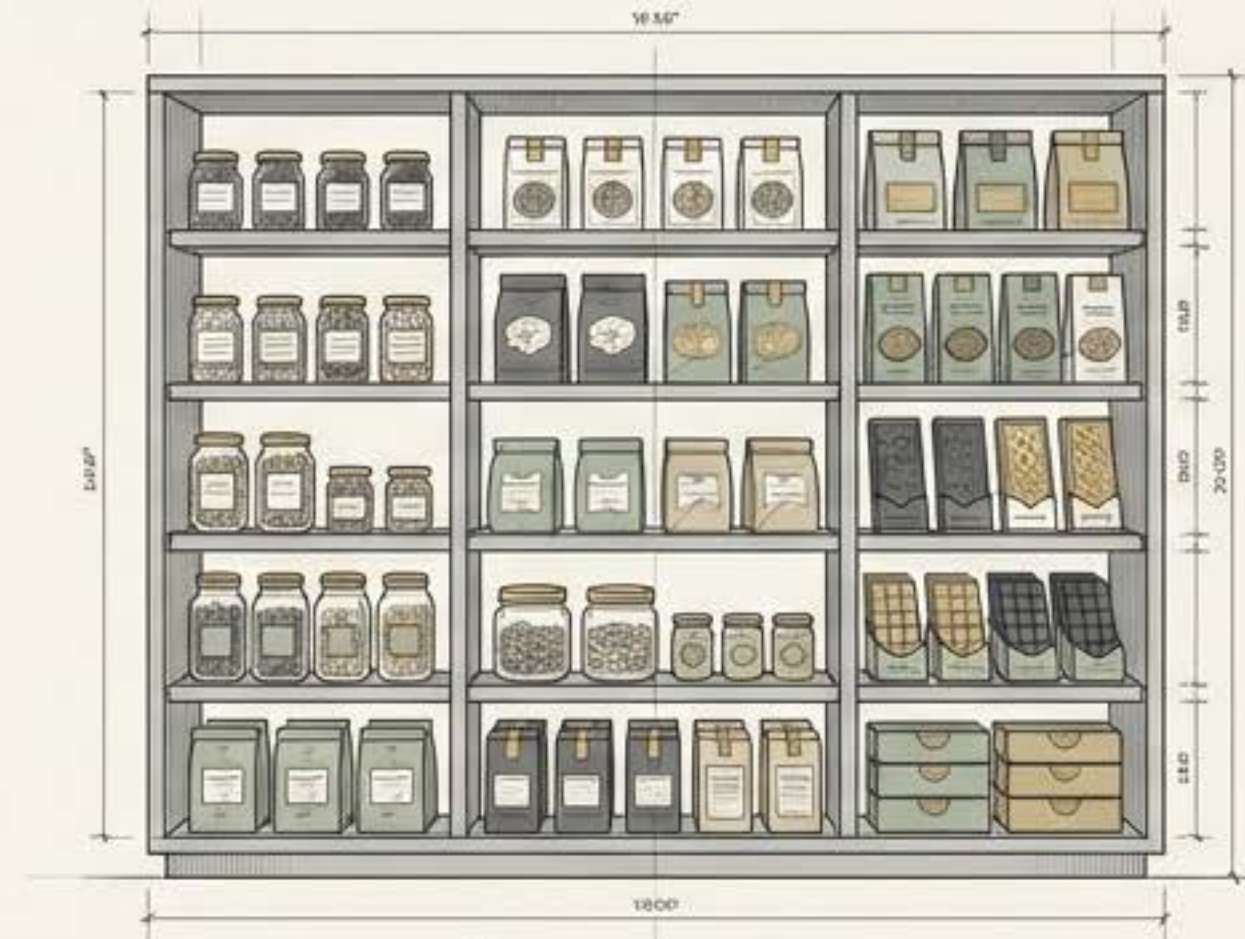


\$3,000

March 2026

Strategy: Bundle hardware/software or consider certified refurbished terminals.

The Fuel (Inventory)



\$10,000

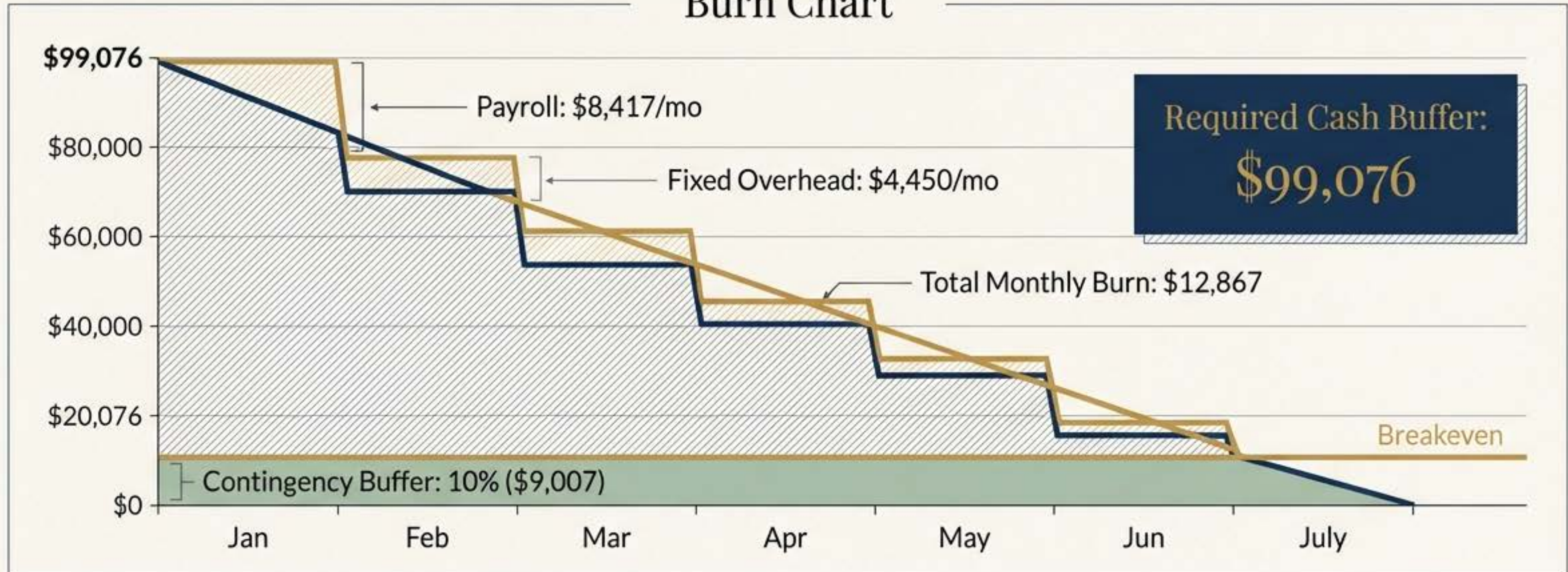
April 2026 (Post-Shelving)

Strategy: Cover 30-60 days of sales volume. Negotiate Net 30 terms. Watch expiration dates on gourmet chocolates.

Total: \$13,000

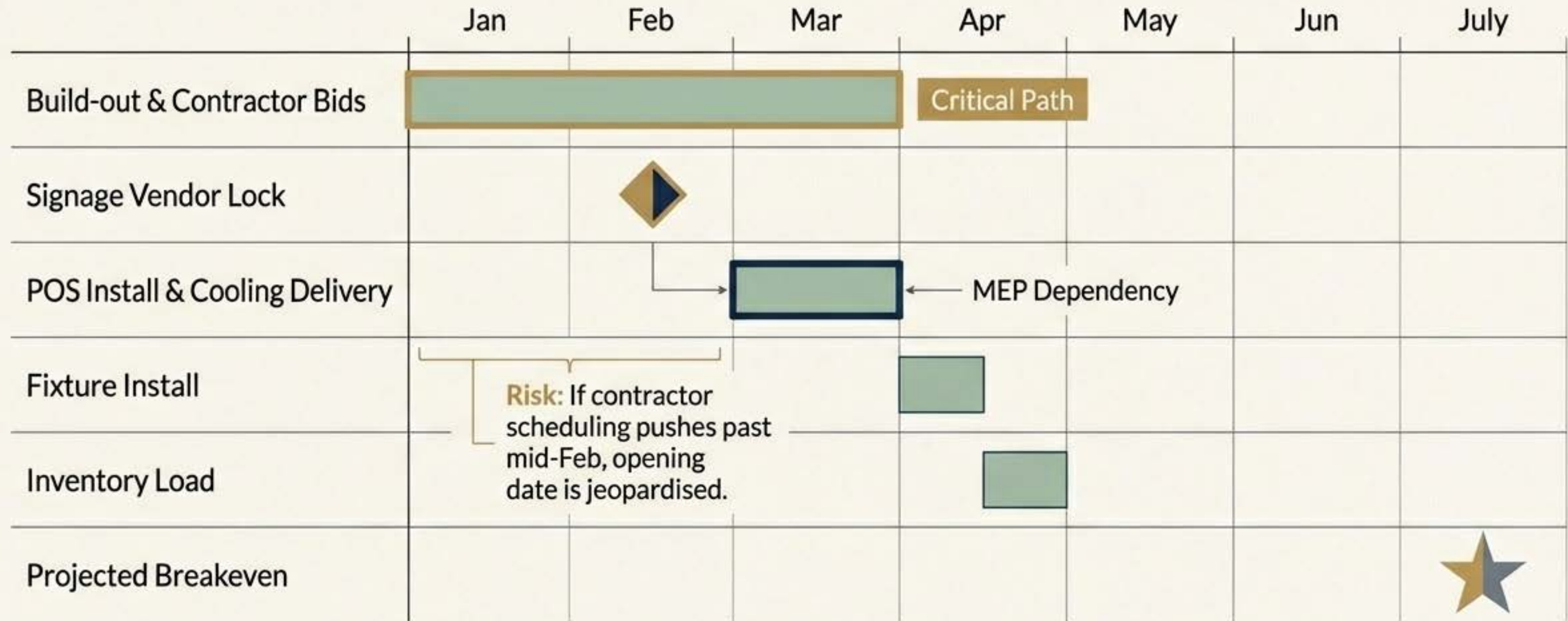
The Survival Runway: Working Capital

Burn Chart



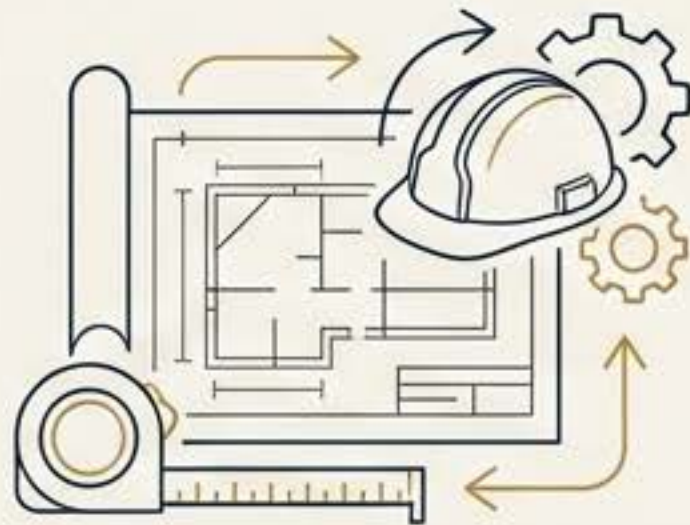
This capital must be liquid before the first dollar of sustained profit arrives.

The Master Timeline: Jan 2026 – July 2026



Strategic Risks & Mitigation

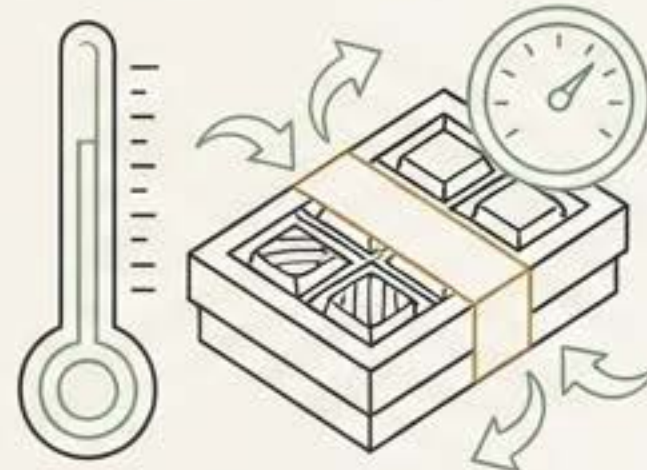
Construction Scope Creep



Impact: Blows the \$40k budget fast.

Mitigation: Fixed bids only. No changes once work commences.

Inventory Spoilage



Impact: Margin erosion on high-value chocolates.

Mitigation: Verify cooling temps; conservative ordering (test low volume first).

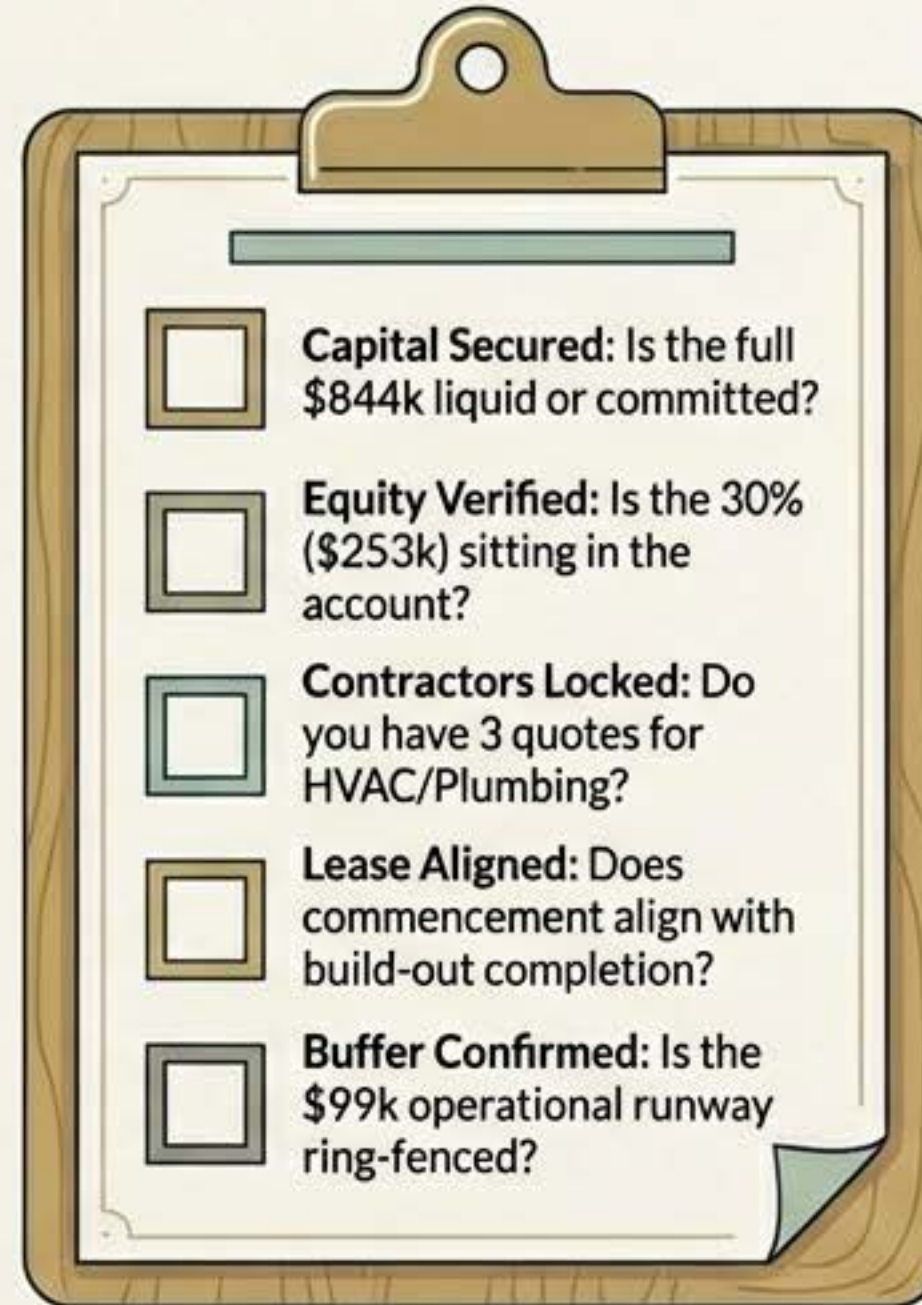
Slow Adoption



Impact: Cash runs out before July.

Mitigation: The 10% contingency buffer (\$9k) and the \$100k LOC.

Pre-Launch Readiness Checklist



****Final Thought: Do not deploy capital until the Equity and Lease terms are 100% verified.****