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Mortgage Rates Inch Down to 2-Week Lows

Last week, we got a sneak preview of how the market would react to Fed Chair Powell ending his term early. In a nutshell, only the shortest-term rates would improve while most consumer rates would move higher--including mortgages. This isn't conjecture, but rather the actual response in the bond market (bonds dictate interest rates). Thankfully, the response reversed after Trump said he wasn't planning on firing Powell.

Nonetheless, doubt remains as to whether Powell is susceptible to other efforts. With that in mind, the rate market reacted positively this morning when additional details emerged regarding Treasury Secretary Bessent's thoughts on the matter. In not so many words, Bessent told trump not to fire Powell and this morning's coverage just expanded on that sentiment.

The Bessent news helped the bond market begin the day in stronger territory. Other factors made for modest additional improvement. Mortgage lenders didn't react to the market movement in a major way, but the average lender lowered their 30yr fixed rate offering by 0.01%. That brings our rate index in line with levels last seen on July 9th--and that's the lowest we've seen in nearly 3 weeks.

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National Average Mortgage Rates



Mortgage News Daily	Rate	Change	Points
30YR Fixed	7.50%	+0.08	0.00
15YR Fixed	7.03%	+0.03	0.00
30YR FHA	7.05%	+0.05	0.00
30YR Jumbo	7.50%	+0.04	0.00
7/6 SOFR	7.13%	+0.08	0.00
30YR VA	7.07%	+0.06	0.00

Rates as of: 11/13

MBS and Treasury

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	98.69	-0.07
10 YR Treasury	5.1413	+0.0117
30 YR Treasury	5.4682	+0.0134

Pricing as of: 11/13 5:59PM EST

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Nov 4	204.6	+6.23%
Building Permits	Sep	1.4M	+0.43%
Housing Starts	Sep	1.22M	-4.24%
New Home Sales	Sep	676K	-1.17%
Pending Home Sales	Aug	71.2	0%
Existing Home Sales	Oct	3.99M	+0.25%
Builder Confidence	Oct	29	-9.38%

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