THE FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK
Co. NMLS# 411500
Member FDIC

Ted Rood
Branch Manager, Gen Way Home Mortgage
NMLS #543290
O Fallon, Missouri 63368

Office: 3147400004
Mobile: 314-740-0004
ted_rood@yahoo.com

# Mortgage Rates Are Actually HIGHER This Week

It's Thursday and, thus, time once again to check in with the slew or mortgage rate headlines that typically follow the release of Freddie Mac's weekly mortgage rate survey. **Here are a few** choice selections:

"U.S. Mortgage Rates Fall for Second Week"
"Mortgage Rates Continue to Decline"
"30-year mortgage rates fall to 3-month low"

And so on and so on... The only issue here is that **they're all wrong**. Rates aren't lower today, nor are they lower this week, nor are they at the lowest levels in 3 months. They're actually at their highest levels in several weeks!

You may be wondering **who's lying** to you at this point, but rest-assured, there is no intentional deception. Quite simply, my claims above take TODAY'S rates into consideration whereas the more upbeat headlines generally pertain to rates that existed on Monday and Tuesday. Why is that?

The headlines are citing Freddie's weekly rate survey, which is a fine tool for tracking broad trends, but **not so great** if you're following along day to day. Freddie's methodology allows for survey responses Monday through Wednesday, but a vast majority of the input is received by Monday. That means the Freddie survey is effectively a "Monday vs Monday" number. As such, if rates make a big move on Tue-Thu, reality might be quite different from the survey results.

So **what's the bottom line here?** Freddie says rates are down 0.02% week over week, but the average lender is up nearly an eighth of a percentage point (.125%) since Thu/Fri, or at least they were as of mid-day today. Intraday improvement in the bond market will soften the damage a bit as several lenders have already offered pricing improvements. If bonds were to remain at current levels tomorrow by, say, 10am Eastern Time, mortgage lenders would likely be able to bring rates down just a bit more. Would it be enough for this week's rates to be lower than last week's? No. That would take a substantial shock in overnight markets or tomorrow morning's Retail Sales report at 8:30am.

## National Average Mortgage Rates




| Mortgage News Daily | Rate | Change | Points |
|---|---|---|---|
| 30YR Fixed | 7.51% | +0.01 | 0.00 |
| 15YR Fixed | 7.04% | +0.01 | 0.00 |
| 30YR FHA | 7.08% | +0.03 | 0.00 |
| 30YR Jumbo | 7.52% | +0.02 | 0.00 |
| 7/6 SOFR | 7.12% | -0.01 | 0.00 |
| 30YR VA | 7.10% | +0.03 | 0.00 |

Rates as of: 11/16

## MBS and Treasury

| | Price / Yield | Change |
|---|---|---|
| MBS UMBS 6.0 | 98.72 | +0.02 |
| 10 YR Treasury | 5.1260 | -0.0082 |
| 30 YR Treasury | 5.4741 | -0.0017 |

Pricing as of: 11/16 7:32PM 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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## Responsive service, experienced expertise

I've dedicated my 26 year mortgage career to client education, superior service, and honest answers. The lending landscape has changed dramatically the past few years, and continues to do so. My job is to ensure client partners' loans close quickly, without surprises, and I take that responsibility very seriously. Referrals are a responsibility I appreciate; they're a measure of trust, and that trust must be earned every day, on every referral.

**Ted Rood**



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