MORTGAGE RATE WATCH

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Mortgage Rates Slightly Higher

Mortgage Rates were steady to slightly lower yesterday even though prevailing trends in the bond market suggested caution. Today's trading is a different story. Granted, there haven't been any huge, dramatic moves, but today's bond market weakness adds a bit of evidence for a **more cautious** approach.

In general, rates are biding their time in a low, narrow range (just slightly higher than the all-time low range seen at the end of 2020) before making their next big move. That "next move" is to-be-determined. It will take guidance from things like economic data, fiscal stimulus, major covid-related news, and even the stock market.

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The average mortgage lender is generally offering the same rates as yesterday, but with modestly higher upfront costs (or lower lender credits). The range for **purchases** is 2.5-2.625%. Add roughly a quarter of a percentage point for refis (this assumes a top tier conventional 30yr fixed loan with at least 20% equity, 740+ credit, and no other negative loan level price adjustments).

