

MORTGAGE RATE WATCH

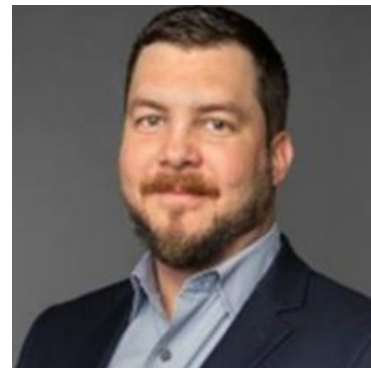
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Lowest Mortgage Rates Since May 14th

Mortgage rates had a great day yesterday, moving within 0.01% of the lowest levels in more than a month. They dropped just a bit more today and are now officially the lowest they've been since May 14th.

Today's improvement was more of an afterthought, but nonetheless helps legitimize yesterday's heavy lifting as something other than a freak coincidence. The only word of caution is that the last few weeks of any given quarter can see elevated volatility in a random pattern due to considerations in the trading world (mortgages are ultimately based on trading levels in the bond market).

In terms of nuts and bolts, bonds got today's modest boost after PCE inflation data came in on target. This doesn't seem like something that should spark a reaction, but the "target" is merely a median forecast. Some traders may have been expecting hotter inflation and were thus willing to buy a few bonds when those fears didn't materialize.



Glendon Grose

Loan Officer, Movement Mortgage

lo.movement.com/.../home

P: (571) 758-4499

M: (540) 424-9664

3701 Pender Dr
Fairfax Virginia 22030
1622561



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