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The Day Ahead: Tariff Extension is Old News as Bonds Wait For Powell and Data

The "big" news over the weekend was the announcement of an extension on US/China tariffs that were set to go into effect on March 1st. While an eventual trade deal would still be a big development for both sides of the market, the extension was only worth a modest in-range correction for bonds. The fact that the range is still so perfectly intact suggests this **wasn't** the news bonds were looking for.



The rest of the week will stand a better chance to argue for a break of the prevailing range. There is a healthy amount of economic data, even if few reports are top tier in terms of market movement potential. Of the actual economic reports, the biggest deal is likely Friday's ISM Manufacturing report. Thursday's GDP **sounds** like a big deal, but keep in mind that it's in reference to Q4, 2018. Not only is that time frame getting fairly old as far as econ data is concerned, it's also quite possibly tainted by the government shutdown. In other words, investors will be more interested in Q1 GDP, which we won't get until April.

MBS and Treasury

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	100.00	+0.19
10 YR Treasury	4.8806	-0.0493
30 YR Treasury	5.2502	-0.0580

Pricing as of: 11/2 11:34AM EST



Average Mortgage Rates

	Rate	Change	Points
Mortgage News Daily			
30YR Fixed	7.27%	0.00	0.00
15YR Fixed	6.92%	0.00	0.00
30YR FHA	6.91%	+0.01	0.00
30YR Jumbo	7.52%	-0.03	0.00
7/6 SOFR	6.70%	-0.08	0.00
30YR VA	6.92%	+0.01	0.00

Rates as of: 11/2

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If we expand our search beyond economic data, we find the week's probable headliner in the form of Jerome Powell's semi-annual congressional testimony. The Fed has been all over the place since December with the past few weeks, in particular, seeing the rapid introduction of the sorts of big ideas that are normally rolled out more slowly. Powell has a chance to refocus the Fed's underlying mission statement this week. This could certainly increase the market's **predisposition** to move in one direction or the other, but **remember**, the ultimate direction of that move will depend on economic developments (US and foreign economic data) and fiscal developments that will likely impact the global economy (like trade war news, which we likely won't get this week).

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Timothy Baron 

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