Temporary Purchases of Loans in Forbearance

Freddie Mac continues to provide guidance to investors – in coordination with Fannie Mae – on recent COVID-19-related policy changes. These changes may impact our mortgage securities. Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae (the Enterprises) are working with FHFA to ensure that our securities remain aligned given the recent changes.

Purchase of New Loans in Forbearance
Due to the unprecedented economic impact from the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae are taking steps to help borrowers and provide additional servicer liquidity. As announced today in Freddie Mac’s 2020-12 Bulletin, beginning May 1 Freddie Mac will begin purchasing new loans that have entered forbearance as a result of borrower hardship caused by COVID-19. Fannie Mae made a similar announcement today.

This is a temporary measure to support the market and is not meant as a change to Freddie Mac’s long-standing definition of what constitutes an investment quality mortgage. Therefore, the company is providing detailed guidance to sellers regarding mortgages that will be eligible for sale during this period. These temporary requirements are effective for Mortgages with Note Dates on or after February 1, 2020 and on or before May 31, 2020. Additionally:

- Mortgages with Note Dates on or after February 1, 2020 and on or before March 31, 2020 must have Settlement Dates on or before May 31, 2020
- Mortgages with Note Dates on or after April 1, 2020 and on or before May 31, 2020 must have Settlement Dates on or before July 31, 2020

Loans that settle during the stated periods may be pooled into Freddie Mac mortgage-backed securities, including TBA-eligible UMBS, following our normal pooling practices, with these temporary exceptions.

For questions, please contact the Freddie Mac Investor Inquiry line at 800-336-3672 or investor_inquiry@freddiemac.com.

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