UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): August 27, 2018

Willis Lease Finance Corporation

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 001-15369 (Commission File Number) 68-0070656 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

773 San Marin Drive, Suite 2215 Novato, California 94998 (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (415) 408-4700

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

□ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Emerging growth company \Box

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On August 27, 2018, the Company entered into the Fourth Amendment to Rights Agreement, which amends the Rights Agreement dated as of September 24, 1999 (as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified, the "Rights Agreement") between the Company and American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, as Rights Agent. The Rights Agreement was set to expire on August 31, 2018, but, effective August 30, 2018, the Company's Board of Directors approved amending the Rights Agreement to extend its effectiveness through August 30, 2028. Therefore, as a result of the Fourth Amendment, the Rights Agreement has been extended until August 30, 2028.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned duly authorized officer.

Dated August 30, 2018

WILLIS LEASE FINANCE CORPORATION

By: <u>/s/ Dean M. Poulakidas</u> Dean M. Poulakidas Senior Vice President and General Counsel