$\label{lem:red} \textit{Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks}.$

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response............38

Page 1 of	* 15	WASHING	EXCHANGE COMMISS TON, D.C. 20549 orm 19b-4		File No.* S	SR - 2021 - * 022 mendments *)	
Filing by NASDAQ BX, Inc.							
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section .	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *	[[[19b-4(f 19b-4(f 19b-4(f)(1)		
Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010 Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant							
Section	806(e)(1) *	Section 806(e)(2) *			to the Securities Exch Section 3C(b)(2)	-	
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document							
Description							
Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).							
A proposal to delay the implementation of an amendment to Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A) relating to Financial Information eXchange in connection with offering BX Participants the ability to utilize FIX to submit orders to its Price Improvement Auction mechanism.							
Contact Information							
Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.							
First Na	ame * Angela		Last Name * Dunn				
Title *		Principal Associate General Counsel					
E-mail ³	* Angela.Dunn@Nasd	Angela.Dunn@Nasdag.com					
Telepho	one * (215) 496-5692	Fax					
Signature							
Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,							
r distant to the requirements of the decounted Exonange Fot of 1004,							
has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized. (Title *)							
Date 05/04/2021 EVP and Chief Legal Officer							
	John A. Zecca		g •				
, [(Name *)						
this form.	icking the button at right will digi A digital signature is as legally and once signed, this form can	john.zecca	john.zecca@nasdaq.com				

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information * clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to Add Remove View the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add View Remove the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working. **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy Partial Amendment proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial

amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

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1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) NASDAQ BX, Inc. ("BX" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposal to delay the implementation of an amendment to Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A) relating to "Financial Information eXchange" or "FIX" in connection with offering BX Participants the ability to utilize FIX to submit orders to its Price Improvement Auction ("PRISM") mechanism.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached as <u>Exhibit 1</u>.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors (the "Board") on November 5, 2020. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Angela Saccomandi Dunn Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 215-496-5692

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

a. <u>Purpose</u>

BX received approval³ to amend Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A), relating to FIX, to offer BX Participants the ability to utilize FIX to submit orders to its PRISM mechanism. BX's amendment permitted it to offer Participants a manner in which to send messages through FIX, to other BX Participants, for the specific purpose of requesting another BX Participant submit an "Initiating Order" along with the sender's PRISM Order⁵ into the PRISM mechanism⁶ for execution pursuant to Options 3, Section 13.

Specifically, the amendment expanded the capabilities of the FIX protocol to allow a BX Participant (sender) to utilize FIX to send a message to other BX Participants (responders) with an order the sender represents as agent ("PRISM Order") on behalf of a Public Customer, broker dealer or other entity requesting the responders provide a contraside Initiating Order (a "response") and begin a PRISM auction (collectively a "Request")

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 91124 (February 12, 2021), 86 FR 10363 (February 19, 2021) (SR-BX-2020-033) (Order Granting Approval of a Proposed Rule Change To Utilize the FIX Protocol To Submit Orders to BX's Price Improvement Auction Mechanism) ("Approval Order").

An Initiating Order is an order executed against principal interest or against any other order it represents as agent. See Options 3, Section 13.

A PRISM Order is an order submitted by a BX Participant that it represents as agent on behalf of a Public Customer, broker dealer, or any other entity, electronically, for execution. <u>See</u> Options 3, Section 13.

This proposal does not amend the PRISM rule within Options 3, Section 13 in connection with offering Participants the ability to submit a Request for PRISM through FIX.

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for PRISM").⁷ If a BX Participant desires to respond to the request, the BX Participant adds an Initiating Order to the sender's PRISM Order and submits the paired order directly into PRISM, through FIX, for processing in accordance with Options 3, Section 13.⁸

The Exchange intended to begin implementation of the proposed rule change by June 30, 2021.⁹ At this time, the Exchange proposes to delay the implementation so that it would begin implementation prior to November 1, 2021. The Exchange will issue an Options Trader Alert to Participants with the date of implementation.

3. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, ¹⁰ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, ¹¹ in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest, by delaying the implementation of its amendment to Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A) to allow the Exchange

The Request for PRISM, if accepted and submitted into PRISM, would become the "PRISM Order" pursuant to Options 3, Section 13.

BX Participants may elect to "opt in" to receive Requests for PRISM. BX Participants that do not elect to "opt in" will not receive such requests. Once a BX Participant elects to receive Requests for PRISM, they would receive all requests from any BX Participant submitting a Request for PRISM. The BX Participant cannot elect to only receive requests from certain Participants and the sender may not elect to send the request to a select group of BX Participants.

See Approval Order page 10364, "The Exchange intends to begin implementation of the proposed rule change by June 30, 2021."

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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additional time to develop and test this functionality. The Exchange believes that additional testing will ensure a successful launch of the functionality.

4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange's proposal to delay the adoption of the amendment to Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A) does not impose an undue burden on competition. Delaying the implementation of the functionality will allow the Exchange additional time to develop and test the functionality.

5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were either solicited or received.

- Extension of Time Period for Commission Action
 Not Applicable.
- 7. Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii)¹² of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder¹³ in that it effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposal does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because delaying the functionality related to the amendment of Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A) will allow the Exchange additional time to develop and test the functionality. The Exchange believes that the proposal does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because delaying the implementation of the functionality will ensure a successful implementation.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has provided such notice.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

- Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission
 Not applicable.
- 9. <u>Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act</u>
 Not applicable.
- 10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act
 Not applicable.

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11. <u>Exhibits</u>

1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

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EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-BX-2021-022)

May ___, 2021

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Delay the Implementation of BX's Request for PRISM

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), ¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, ² notice is hereby given that on May 4, 2021, Nasdaq BX, Inc. ("BX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III, below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the</u> Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to delay the implementation of an amendment to Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A) relating to "Financial Information eXchange" or "FIX" in connection with offering BX Participants the ability to utilize FIX to submit orders to its Price Improvement Auction ("PRISM") mechanism.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/bx/rules, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

BX received approval³ to amend Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A), relating to FIX, to offer BX Participants the ability to utilize FIX to submit orders to its PRISM mechanism. BX's amendment permitted it to offer Participants a manner in which to send messages through FIX, to other BX Participants, for the specific purpose of requesting another BX Participant submit an "Initiating Order" along with the sender's PRISM Order⁵ into the PRISM mechanism⁶ for execution pursuant to Options 3, Section 13.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 91124 (February 12, 2021), 86 FR 10363 (February 19, 2021) (SR-BX-2020-033) (Order Granting Approval of a Proposed Rule Change To Utilize the FIX Protocol To Submit Orders to BX's Price Improvement Auction Mechanism) ("Approval Order").

An Initiating Order is an order executed against principal interest or against any other order it represents as agent. See Options 3, Section 13.

A PRISM Order is an order submitted by a BX Participant that it represents as agent on behalf of a Public Customer, broker dealer, or any other entity, electronically, for execution. <u>See</u> Options 3, Section 13.

This proposal does not amend the PRISM rule within Options 3, Section 13 in connection with offering Participants the ability to submit a Request for PRISM through FIX.

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Specifically, the amendment expanded the capabilities of the FIX protocol to allow a BX Participant (sender) to utilize FIX to send a message to other BX Participants (responders) with an order the sender represents as agent ("PRISM Order") on behalf of a Public Customer, broker dealer or other entity requesting the responders provide a contraside Initiating Order (a "response") and begin a PRISM auction (collectively a "Request for PRISM"). If a BX Participant desires to respond to the request, the BX Participant adds an Initiating Order to the sender's PRISM Order and submits the paired order directly into PRISM, through FIX, for processing in accordance with Options 3, Section 13.8

The Exchange intended to begin implementation of the proposed rule change by June 30, 2021.⁹ At this time, the Exchange proposes to delay the implementation so that it would begin implementation prior to November 1, 2021. The Exchange will issue an Options Trader Alert to Participants with the date of implementation.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, ¹⁰ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, ¹¹ in particular,

The Request for PRISM, if accepted and submitted into PRISM, would become the "PRISM Order" pursuant to Options 3, Section 13.

BX Participants may elect to "opt in" to receive Requests for PRISM. BX
Participants that do not elect to "opt in" will not receive such requests. Once a
BX Participant elects to receive Requests for PRISM, they would receive all
requests from any BX Participant submitting a Request for PRISM. The BX
Participant cannot elect to only receive requests from certain Participants and the
sender may not elect to send the request to a select group of BX Participants.

See Approval Order page 10364, "The Exchange intends to begin implementation of the proposed rule change by June 30, 2021."

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)

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in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest, by delaying the implementation of its amendment to Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A) to allow the Exchange additional time to develop and test this functionality. The Exchange believes that additional testing will ensure a successful launch of the functionality.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange's proposal to delay the adoption of the amendment to Options 3, Section 7(d)(1)(A) does not impose an undue burden on competition. Delaying the implementation of the functionality will allow the Exchange additional time to develop and test the functionality.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were either solicited or received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act¹² and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹³

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-BX-2021-022 on the subject line.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹⁷ CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

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Paper comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange
 Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BX-2021-022. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BX-2021-022 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

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For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 14

J. Matthew DeLesDernier Assistant Secretary

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).