
Voting Information Project Specification Documentation

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Welcome to the Voting Information Project's (VIP) *open XML* and *CSV* format specification. This data format provides an easy way to produce data that lets developers take a voter's address, compare it to street segments, and determine that voter's precinct (or precinct split). Knowing a voter's precinct allows information disseminators (such as [Google](#)) to provide voters with their official polling locations (and early voting sites), ballots (including both candidates and referenda), local election administrations, and election officials.

To see a changelog of all of the updates, please see [the GitHub repository](#).

1.1 XML Specification

- *Getting Started*
 - *Naming convention*
- *Best Practices*
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1.1.1 Getting Started

The actual election information specifies collections of elements, some containing links between each other. The entire set of tags must be encapsulated in a root object named `vip_object`. See the [sample xml file](#) and [xsd file](#) for more details.

Each top-level tag is a container for other fields, described in their own section. The only required top-level tags are the *source object* and the *election object*, each of which must be present exactly once. All other top-level tags can be repeated an unlimited number of times, or not included at all; order of top-level tags does not matter. Each top-level tag is required to have a single attribute, “id”, which is required to be unique in a data file. The id attribute for the state object should be the state’s FIPS number and this is strongly recommended. The id attributes are not required to remain constant for the same piece of semantic data across multiple productions of the feed (e.g. candidate Michael Smith, running for dogcatcher in Iowa, is not required to have the same candidate id attribute each time the state of Iowa publishes data).

In general, subtag data can appear a maximum of one time within each top-level tag object and in any order. Exceptions are noted below.

For the data itself, the special characters `&`, `<`, and `>` need to be encoded as `&`, `<`, and `>`, respectively.

Naming convention

While many of the Voting Information Project's data processes are managed by software, the quality of the entire system relies on human intervention, especially for error reporting and quality control. For this reason, VIP files should follow a naming convention that describes the contents of each individual feed file in an accessible way.

The file containing the VIP feed should be named using the following convention:

```
vipfeed- $\${FIPS}$ - $\${ELECTION\_DATE}$ - $\${STATE}$ [- $\${LOCAL}$ ].{xml|zip}
```

An explanation of each of the segments of the file naming convention above are as follows:

- $\${FIPS}$ - The **FIPS code** for the jurisdiction.
- $\${ELECTION_DATE}$ - The date of the election in **ISO 8601** format.
- $\${STATE}$ - The full state name (e.g. Alaska, Arkansas, etc...) and not the abbreviation. If there are spaces in the state name, they should be substituted with underscores (e.g. New York -> New_York).
- $\${LOCAL}$ (optional) - This additional identifier should be used if the file contains data from a specific jurisdiction. As with $\${STATE}$ above, all spaces should be substituted with underscores. For example, if the data contained in the file only covers Maricopa County, AZ for the November 6, 2012 election, the file name would be `vipfeed-04013-2012-11-06-Arizona-Maricopa_County.xml`.
- `{xml|zip}` - If the file is an uncompressed XML document, the extension should be `.xml`. If the file is zipped, the file extension should end with `.zip`.

For a final example, `vipfeed-19-2012-11-06-Iowa.zip` denotes Iowa's (**NB:** the FIPS code for IA is 19) feed for the Nov 6, 2012 election that has been compressed.

1.1.2 Best Practices

There are many different ways to generate a valid feed. We strongly encourage reviewing and adhering to the guidelines described in the following best practices sections:

XML Data Best Practices

Following is a series of best practice for data collection and XML file creation and suggestions about best practices of formatting data within your VIP XML file.

Element Identifiers

Most elements within the VIP feed require unique identifiers, `xs:ID` data types, and in order to maintain uniqueness and provide context for the identifiers, the best practice is to use **Hungarian-Style** notation for identifiers.

ID values should follow Hungarian-Style notation, were the identifier prefix implicitly names the data element. Below is a list of preferred prefixes by element (e.g. `par00001` for a `Party id`):

| Element | Prefix |
|------------------------|--------|
| BallotMeasureContest | bmc |
| BallotMeasureSelection | bms |
| BallotStyle | bs |
| Candidate | can |
| CandidateContest | cc |
| CandidateSelection | cs |
| ContactInformation | ci |
| Election | ele |
| ElectionAdministration | ea |
| ElectoralDistrict | ed |
| HoursOpen | hours |
| Locality | loc |
| Office | off |
| OrderedContest | oc |
| Party | par |
| PartyContest | pc |
| PartySelection | ps |
| Person | per |
| PollingLocation | pl |
| RetentionContest | rc |
| Source | src |
| State | st |
| StreetSegment | ss |

File Structure

All XML files should be encoded UTF-8 and line breaks should be LF (\n) as opposed to CR LF (\r\n).

For consistency across files and to aid human readability all indentation of elements should be an indent of two spaces and tabs should not be used. Each child node of an element should also be indented an additional two spaces.

General Data Structure

All data that are presented to end users of the data (i.e. contest names, referendum text, polling location names, street names, proper names), where possible, should be converted to Title Case to aid readability.

All data should be trimmed to remove leading and trailing white space.

Optional elements without values should be omitted from XML feed.

Specific Data Types

Elements with a data type of `xs:integer` must contain a valid whole number greater than zero.

Elements with a data type of `xs:anyURI` should be entered as a fully qualified domain name (e.g. <https://www.votinginfoproject.org/>)

Elements with a data type of `xs:dateTime` should be entered in **ISO-8601** format.

Elements with a data type of `xs:boolean` should either have a value of `true` or `false`

Elements with a data type of `xs:language` should contain a two character, lower-case, value corresponding to the ISO 639 standard.

Elements that have enumerations which include an `other` should have a corresponding value assigned to `OtherType` within the containing element. For example:

```
1 <BallotMeasureContest id="bm390616670907">
2   <BallotSelectionId>bms390616670907</BallotSelectionId>
3   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed3906177703103</ElectoralDistrictId>
4   <Name>Proposed Tax Levy School District</Name>
5   <SequenceOrder>34</SequenceOrder>
6   <FullText>
7     <Text language="en">An additional tax for the benefit of the Lockland Local
8     ↪ School District, County of Hamilton,
9     ↪ Ohio, for the purpose of CURRENT EXPENSES at a rate not exceeding eleven and two-
10    ↪ tenths (11.2) mills for each
11    ↪ one dollar of valuation, which amounts to one dollar and twelve cents ($1.12)
12    ↪ for each one hundred dollars of
13    ↪ valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2015, first due in
14    ↪ calendar year 2016.</Text>
15   </FullText>
16   <SummaryText>
17     <Text language="en">4 Proposed Tax Levy</Text>
18   </SummaryText>
19   <Type>other</Type>
20   <OtherType>bond</OtherType>
21 </BallotMeasureContest>
```

Specific Data Elements

Street Segments: Valid street segment records should not contain leading zeros in `xs:integer` fields and should have a `Zip` value of 00000 if a value is unknown.

External Identifiers: External identifiers with an enumeration of `fips` should contain valid FIPS code values as defined by the [U.S. Census Bureau](#). External identifiers with an enumeration of `ocd-id` should contain a valid [Open Civic Data Division Identifier](#).

For long text fields (e.g. `FullText` in `BallotMeasureContest`) the XML line break (`
`) should be used to enforce line break styling.

In all fields the characters `<`, `>`, and `&` should be encoded `<`, `>`, and `&` respectively.

These sections outline several recommendations for feed layout, element identifiers, and enumeration selection that will make it easier to generate and troubleshoot your VIP feeds.

1.1.3 Elements & Enumerations

Single-page Format

XML Elements & Enumerations (Single Page)

- *Elements*
 - *State*

- *Term*
- *Office*
 - * *Term*
 - * *ContactInformation*
 - * *Name and AddressLine Usage Note*
- *Election*
- *BallotSelectionBase*
- *Source*
- *BallotMeasureContest*
 - * *ContestBase*
- *ContestBase*
- *TimeWithZone*
- *LanguageString*
- *BallotStyle*
- *ExternalIdentifier*
- *Person*
 - * *ContactInformation*
 - * *Name and AddressLine Usage Note*
- *ExternalIdentifiers*
- *VoterService*
- *ContactInformation*
 - * *Name and AddressLine Usage Note*
- *CandidateSelection*
 - * *BallotSelectionBase*
- *LatLng*
- *Candidate*
- *PollingLocation*
 - * *LatLng*
- *Locality*
- *Department*
 - * *VoterService*
 - * *ContactInformation*
 - * *Name and AddressLine Usage Note*
- *HtmlColorString*
- *Schedule*

- * *Hours*
 - *TimeWithZone*
- *Precinct*
- *OrderedContest*
- *PartyContest*
 - * *ContestBase*
- *ElectionAdministration*
 - * *Department*
 - *VoterService*
 - *ContactInformation*
 - * *Name and AddressLine Usage Note*
 - * *VoterService*
- *Hours*
 - * *TimeWithZone*
- *RetentionContest*
- *StreetSegment*
- *CandidateContest*
 - * *ContestBase*
- *Party*
 - * *HtmlColorString*
- *InternationalizedText*
- *BallotMeasureSelection*
 - * *BallotSelectionBase*
- *HoursOpen*
 - * *Schedule*
 - *Hours*
 - * *TimeWithZone*
- *ElectoralDistrict*
- *PartySelection*
 - * *BallotSelectionBase*
- *Enumerations*
 - *IdentifierType*
 - *CandidatePostElectionStatus*
 - *CandidatePreElectionStatus*
 - *VoterServiceType*

- *DistrictType*
- *OfficeTermType*
- *OebEnum*
- *BallotMeasureType*
- *VoteVariation*

Elements

State

The State object includes state-wide election information. The ID attribute is recommended to be the state’s FIPS code, along with the prefix “st”.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Election-AdministrationId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the state’s election administration object. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ExternalIdentifiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifier for the state that relates to another dataset (e.g. OCD-ID). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of a state, such as Alabama. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PollingLocations | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to the state’s <i>polling locations</i> . If early vote centers or ballot drop locations are state-wide (e.g., anyone in the state can use them), they can be specified here, but you are encouraged to only use the <i>Precinct</i> element. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <State id="st51">
2   <ElectionAdministrationId>ea40133</ElectionAdministrationId>
3   <ExternalIdentifiers>
4     <ExternalIdentifier>
5       <Type>ocd-id</Type>
6       <Value>ocd-division/country:us/state:va</Value>
7     </ExternalIdentifier>
8   </ExternalIdentifiers>
9   <Name>Virginia</Name>
10 </State>

```

Term

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Type | <i>OfficeTermType</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the type of office term (see <i>OfficeTermType</i> for valid values). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| Start-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the start date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| End-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the end date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <Office id="off0000">
2   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed60129</ElectoralDistrictId>
3   <FilingDeadline>2013-01-01</FilingDeadline>
4   <IsPartisan>>false</IsPartisan>
5   <Name>
6     <Text language="en">Governor</Text>
7   </Name>
8   <Term>
9     <Type>full-term</Type>
10  </Term>
11 </Office>

```

Office

Office represents the office associated with a contest or district (e.g. Alderman, Mayor, School Board, et al).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| ContactInformation | single-xml-contact-information | Optional | Repeats | Specifies the contact information for the office and/or individual holding the office. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Optional | Single | A brief description of the office and its purpose. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectoralDistrictId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>ElectoralDistrict</i> element associated with the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| ExternalIdentifiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link this office to other related datasets (e.g. campaign finance systems, OCD IDs, et al.). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| FilingDeadline | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the date and time when a candidate must have filed for the contest for the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsPartisan | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the office is partisan. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Required | Single | The name of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| OfficeHolderPersonIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | Links to the <i>Person</i> element(s) that hold additional information about the current office holder(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Term | single-xml-term | Optional | Single | Defines the term the office can be held. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Term

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Type | <i>OfficeTermType</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the type of office term (see <i>OfficeTermType</i> for valid values). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| StartDate | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the start date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| EndDate | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the end date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <Office id="off0000">
2   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed60129</ElectoralDistrictId>
3   <FilingDeadline>2013-01-01</FilingDeadline>

```

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```
4  <IsPartisan>>false</IsPartisan>
5  <Name>
6    <Text language="en">Governor</Text>
7  </Name>
8  <Term>
9    <Type>full-term</Type>
10 </Term>
11 </Office>
```

ContactInformation

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *ElectionAdministration*, *Office*, *Person*, *Source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Directions | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <i>:ref:‘single-xml-hours-open‘</i> element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | xs:ID | Optional | Single | References an <i>HoursOpen</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatLng | single-xml-lat-lng | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | ignore it. |

Name and AddressLine Usage Note

The Name and AddressLine fields should be chosen so that a display or mailing address can be constructed programmatically by joining the Name and AddressLine fields together. For example, for the following address:

```
Department of Elections
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102
```

The name could be “Department of Elections” and the first address line could be “1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48.”

However, VIP does not yet support the representation of mailing addresses whose “name” portion spans more than one line, for example:

```
California Secretary of State
Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

For addresses like the above, we recommend choosing a name like, “California Secretary of State, Elections Division” with “1500 11th Street” as the first address line. This would result in a programmatically constructed address like the following:

```
California Secretary of State, Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

```
1 <ContactInformation label="ci10861a">
2   <AddressLine>1600 Pennsylvania Ave</AddressLine>
3   <AddressLine>Washington, DC 20006</AddressLine>
4   <Email>president@whitehouse.gov</Email>
5   <Phone>202-456-1111</Phone>
6   <Phone annotation="TDD">202-456-6213</Phone>
7   <Uri>http://www.whitehouse.gov</Uri>
8 </ContactInformation>
```

Election

The Election object represents an Election Day, which usually consists of many individual contests and/or referenda. A feed must contain **exactly one** Election object. All relationships in the feed (e.g., street segment to precinct to polling location) are assumed to relate only to the Election specified by this object. It is permissible, and recommended, to combine unrelated contests (e.g., a special election and a general election) that occur on the same day into one feed with one Election object.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| Date | xs:date | Required | Single | Specifies when the election is being held. The <i>Date</i> is considered to be in the timezone local to the state holding the election. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the Election element containing it. |
| Election-Type | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Specifies the highest controlling authority for election (e.g., federal, state, county, city, town, etc.) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| StateId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Specifies a link to the <i>State</i> element where the election is being held. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the Election element containing it. |
| Is-Statewide | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the election is statewide. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to default to "yes". |
| Name | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | The name for the election (NB: while optional, this element is highly recommended). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| RegistrationInfo | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Specifies information about registration for this election either as text or a URI. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Absentee-Ballot-Info | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Specifies information about requesting absentee ballots either as text or a URI | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ResultsUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Contains a URI where results for the election may be found | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | 15 |
| PollingHours | Hours | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that Election Day polling loca- | If the element |

```

1 <Election id="ele30000">
2   <AbsenteeRequestDeadline>2013-10-30</AbsenteeRequestDeadline>
3   <Date>2013-11-05</Date>
4   <ElectionType>
5     <Text language="en">General</Text>
6     <Text language="es">Generales</Text>
7   </ElectionType>
8   <HasElectionDayRegistration>>false</HasElectionDayRegistration>
9   <HoursOpenId>hours0001</HoursOpenId>
10  <IsStatewide>>true</IsStatewide>
11  <Name>
12    <Text language="en">2013 Statewide General</Text>
13  </Name>
14  <RegistrationDeadline>2013-10-15</RegistrationDeadline>
15  <ResultsUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/ElectionResults.html</ResultsUri>
16  <StateId>st51</StateId>
17 </Election>

```

BallotSelectionBase

A base model for all ballot selection types: *BallotMeasureSelection*, *CandidateSelection*, and *PartySelection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Sequence-Order | xs:int | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>OrderedContest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Source

The Source object represents the organization that is publishing the information. This object is the only required object in the feed file, and only one source object is allowed to be present.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of the organization that is providing the information. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the <code>Source</code> element containing it. |
| VipId | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the ID of the organization. VIP uses FIPS codes for this ID. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the <code>Source</code> element containing it. |
| Date-Time | xs:dateTime | Required | Single | Specifies the date and time of the feed production. The date/time is considered to be in the timezone local to the organization. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies both the nature of the organization providing the data and what data is in the feed. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| OrganizationUri | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI to the home page of the organization publishing the data. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Feed-ContactId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to the <i>Person</i> who will respond to inquiries about the information contained within the file. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| TouUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies the website where the Terms of Use for the information in this file can be found. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Version | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the version of the data | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <Source id="src1">
2   <DateTime>2013-10-24T14:25:28</DateTime>
3   <Description>
4     <Text language="en">SBE is the official source for Virginia data</Text>
5   </Description>
6   <Name>State Board of Elections, Commonwealth of Virginia</Name>
7   <OrganizationUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</OrganizationUri>
8   <VipId>51</VipId>
9   <Version>5.0</Version>
10 </Source>

```

BallotMeasureContest

The `BallotMeasureContest` provides information about a ballot measure before the voters, including summary statements on each side. Extends `single-xml-contest-base`.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Con-Statement | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a statement in opposition to the referendum. It does not necessarily appear on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| EffectOfAbstain | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies what effect abstaining (i.e. not voting) on this proposition will have (i.e. whether abstaining is considered a vote against it). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Full-Text | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the full text of the referendum as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| InfoUri | <code>xs:anyURI</code> | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI that links to additional information about the referendum. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PassageThreshold | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the threshold of votes that the referendum needs in order to pass. The default is a simple majority (i.e. 50% plus one vote). Other common thresholds are “three-fifths” and “two-thirds”. If there are competing initiatives , information about their effect on the passage of the <code>BallotMeasureContest</code> would go here. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ProStatement | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a statement in favor of the referendum. It does not necessarily appear on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Summary-Text | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a short summary of the referendum that is on the ballot, below the title, but above the text. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>Ballot-Measure-Type</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the particular type of ballot measure. Must be one of the valid <i>BallotMeasureType</i> options. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 18 | Chapter 1. XML Documentation | | | | |
| Other-Type | <code>xs:string</code> | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging a new <i>BallotMeasureType</i> option, when Type is specified as “other.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the |

```
1 <BallotMeasureContest id="bmc30001">
2   <BallotSelectionIds>bms30001a bms30001b</BallotSelectionIds>
3   <BallotTitle>
4     <Text language="en">State of the State</Text>
5     <Text language="es">Estado del Estado.</Text>
6   </BallotTitle>
7   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed60129</ElectoralDistrictId>
8   <Name>Referendum on Virginia</Name>
9   <ConStatement label="bmc30001con">
10    <Text language="en">This is no good.</Text>
11    <Text language="es">Esto no es bueno.</Text>
12  </ConStatement>
13  <EffectOfAbstain label="bmc30001abs">
14    <Text language="en">Nothing will happen.</Text>
15    <Text language="es">Nada pasará.</Text>
16  </EffectOfAbstain>
17  <ProStatement label="bmc30001pro">
18    <Text language="en">Everything will be great.</Text>
19    <Text language="es">Todo va a estar bien.</Text>
20  </ProStatement>
21  <Type>referendum</Type>
22 </BallotMeasureContest>
```

ContestBase

A base model for all Contest types: *BallotMeasureContest*, *CandidateContest*, *PartyContest*, and *RetentionContest* (NB: the latter because it extends *BallotMeasureContest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Se- lec- tion- Ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>single-xml-ballot-selection-base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Sub- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- toral- Dis- tric- tId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <i>ElectoralDistrict</i> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- torate- Spec- ifi- ca- tion | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Ex- ter- nal- den- ti- fiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Has- Ro- ta- tion | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 20 | | | | | |
| Se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the de- | If the field is |

ContestBase

A base model for all Contest types: *BallotMeasureContest*, *CandidateContest*, *PartyContest*, and *RetentionContest* (NB: the latter because it extends *BallotMeasureContest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Se- lec- tion- Ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>single-xml-ballot-selection-base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Sub- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- toral- Dis- tric- tId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <i>ElectoralDistrict</i> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- torate- Spec- ifi- ca- tion | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Ex- ter- nal- den- ti- fiers | <i>External-identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Has- Ro- ta- tion | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 22 | | | | | |
| Se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the de- | If the field is |

TimeWithZone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

(([01][0-9]|2[0-3]):[0-5][0-9]:[0-5][0-9]|(24:00:00))(Z|[+-]([0-9]|1[0-3]):[0-5][0-9]|14

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
5       <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6     </Hours>
7     <Hours>
8       <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9       <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10    </Hours>
11    <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12    <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13  </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>

```

LanguageString

LanguageString extends xs:string and can contain text from any language. LanguageString has one required attribute, language, that must contain the 2-character language code for the type of language LanguageString contains.

```

1 <BallotTitle>
2   <Text language="en">Retention of Supreme Court Justice</Text>
3   <Text language="es">La retención de juez de la Corte Suprema</Text>
4 </BallotTitle>

```

BallotStyle

A container for the contests/asures on the ballot.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|---|---|
| ImageUri | xs:anyURI | Op-tional | Single | Specifies a URI that returns an image of the sample ballot. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Ordered-ContestIds | xs:IDREF | Op-tional | Single | Reference to a set of <i>OrderedContest</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PartyIds | xs:IDREF | Op-tional | Single | Reference to a set of :ref:'single-xml-party's. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <BallotStyle id="bs00000">
2   <OrderedContestIds>oc20003 oc20004 oc20005 oc20025 oc20355 oc20449</
3   <OrderedContestIds>
4 </BallotStyle>

```

ExternalIdentifier

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Type | <i>IdentifierType</i> | Required | Single | Specifies the type of identifier. Must be one of the valid types as defined by <i>IdentifierType</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ElectionIdentifier</code> containing it. |
| Other-Type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging an <code>ExternalIdentifier</code> type that falls outside the options listed in <i>IdentifierType</i> . Type should be set to “other” when using this field. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Value | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the identifier. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ElectionIdentifier</code> containing it. |

```

1 <ExternalIdentifiers>
2   <ExternalIdentifier>
3     <Type>ocd-id</Type>
4     <Value>ocd-division/country:us/state:nc/county:durham</Value>
5   </ExternalIdentifier>
6   <ExternalIdentifier>
7     <Type>FIPS</Type>
8     <Value>37063</Value>
9   </ExternalIdentifier>
10  <ExternalIdentifier>
11    <Type>OTHER</Type>
12    <OtherType>GNIS</OtherType>
13    <Value>1008550</Value>
14  </ExternalIdentifier>
15  <external_identifier>
16    <Type>OTHER</Type>
17    <OtherType>census</OtherType>
18    <Value>99063</Value>
19  </external_identifier>
20 </ExternalIdentifiers>

```

Person

`Person` defines information about a person. The person may be a candidate, election administrator, or elected official. These elements reference `Person`:

- *Candidate*
- *ElectionAdministration*
- *Office*

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Contact-Information | single-xml-contact-information | Optional | Repeats | Specifies contact information for the person. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Date-Of-Birth | xs:date | Optional | Single | Represents the individual's date of birth. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| External-Identifiers | <i>External-identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Identifiers for this person. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| First-Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's first name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Full-Name | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's full name (NB: this information is <i>InternationalizedText</i> because it sometimes appears on ballots in multiple languages). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Gender | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's gender. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Last-Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's last name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Middle-Name | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | Represents any number of names between an individual's first and last names (e.g. John Ronald Reuel Tolkien). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Nickname | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's nickname. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PartyId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Refers to the associated <i>Party</i> . This information is intended to be used by feed consumers to help them disambiguate the person's identity, but not to be presented as part of any ballot information. For that see <i>Candidate PartyId</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Prefix | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a prefix associated with a person (e.g. Dr.). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Profession | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's profession (NB: this information is <i>InternationalizedText</i> because it sometimes appears on ballots in multiple languages). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Suffix | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a suffix associated with a person (e.g. Jr.). | If the field is invalid or not present, then |

```
1 <Person id="per50001">
2   <ContactInformation label="ci60002">
3     <Email>rwashburne@albemarle.org</Email>
4     <Phone>4349724173</Phone>
5   </ContactInformation>
6   <FirstName>RICHARD</FirstName>
7   <LastName>WASHBURNE</LastName>
8   <MiddleName>J.</MiddleName>
9   <Nickname>JAKE</Nickname>
10  <Title>
11    <Text language="en">General Registrar Physical</Text>
12  </Title>
13 </Person>
```

ContactInformation

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *ElectionAdministration*, *Office*, *Person*, *Source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Directions | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <i>:ref:‘single-xml-hours-open‘</i> element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | References an <i>HoursOpen</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatLng | single-xml-lat-lng | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | ignore it. 27 |

Name and AddressLine Usage Note

The Name and AddressLine fields should be chosen so that a display or mailing address can be constructed programmatically by joining the Name and AddressLine fields together. For example, for the following address:

```
Department of Elections
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102
```

The name could be “Department of Elections” and the first address line could be “1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48.”

However, VIP does not yet support the representation of mailing addresses whose “name” portion spans more than one line, for example:

```
California Secretary of State
Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

For addresses like the above, we recommend choosing a name like, “California Secretary of State, Elections Division” with “1500 11th Street” as the first address line. This would result in a programmatically constructed address like the following:

```
California Secretary of State, Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

```
1 <ContactInformation label="ci10861a">
2   <AddressLine>1600 Pennsylvania Ave</AddressLine>
3   <AddressLine>Washington, DC 20006</AddressLine>
4   <Email>president@whitehouse.gov</Email>
5   <Phone>202-456-1111</Phone>
6   <Phone annotation="TDD">202-456-6213</Phone>
7   <Uri>http://www.whitehouse.gov</Uri>
8 </ContactInformation>
```

ExternalIdentifiers

The ExternalIdentifiers element allows VIP data to connect with external datasets (e.g. candidates with campaign finance datasets, electoral geographies with [OCD-IDs](#) that allow for greater connectivity with additional datasets, etc...). Examples for ExternalIdentifiers can be found on the objects that support them:

- *Candidate*
- Any element that extends single-xml-contest-base
- *ElectoralDistrict*
- *Locality*
- *Office*
- *Party*
- *Precinct*
- *State*

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| ExternalIdentifier | <i>ExternalIdentifier</i> | Required | Repeats | Defines the identifier and the type of identifier it is (see <i>ExternalIdentifier</i> for complete information). | At least one valid <i>ExternalIdentifier</i> must be present for ExternalIdentifiers to be valid. If no valid <i>ExternalIdentifier</i> is present, the implementation is required to ignore the ExternalIdentifiers element. |

VoterService

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| ContactInformation | single-xml-contact-information | Optional | Single | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Optional | Single | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectionOfficialPersonId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>VoterServiceType</i> | Optional | Single | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| OtherType | xs:string | Optional | Single | If Type is "other", OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <ElectionAdministration id="ea40133">
2   <AbsenteeUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/absenteevoting.html</AbsenteeUri>
3   <AmIRegisteredUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</AmIRegisteredUri>
4   <Department>
5     <ContactInformation label="ci60000">
6       <AddressLine>Washington Building First Floor</AddressLine>
7       <AddressLine>1100 Bank Street</AddressLine>
8       <AddressLine>Richmond, VA 23219</AddressLine>
9       <Name>State Board of Elections</Name>
10    </ContactInformation>
11  </Department>
12  <ElectionsUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</ElectionsUri>
13  <RegistrationUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</RegistrationUri>
14  <RulesUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</RulesUri>
15  <WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>
16  <WhereDoIVoteUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhereDoIVoteUri>
17 </ElectionAdministration>

```

ContactInformation

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *ElectionAdministration*, *Office*, *Person*, *Source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Directions | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref:'single-xml-hours-open' element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format).</i> | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | References an <i>HoursOpen</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatLng | single-xml-lat-lng | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | ignore it. 31 |

Name and AddressLine Usage Note

The Name and AddressLine fields should be chosen so that a display or mailing address can be constructed programmatically by joining the Name and AddressLine fields together. For example, for the following address:

```
Department of Elections
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102
```

The name could be “Department of Elections” and the first address line could be “1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48.”

However, VIP does not yet support the representation of mailing addresses whose “name” portion spans more than one line, for example:

```
California Secretary of State
Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

For addresses like the above, we recommend choosing a name like, “California Secretary of State, Elections Division” with “1500 11th Street” as the first address line. This would result in a programmatically constructed address like the following:

```
California Secretary of State, Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

```
1 <ContactInformation label="ci10861a">
2   <AddressLine>1600 Pennsylvania Ave</AddressLine>
3   <AddressLine>Washington, DC 20006</AddressLine>
4   <Email>president@whitehouse.gov</Email>
5   <Phone>202-456-1111</Phone>
6   <Phone annotation="TDD">202-456-6213</Phone>
7   <Uri>http://www.whitehouse.gov</Uri>
8 </ContactInformation>
```

CandidateSelection

CandidateSelection extends single-xml-ballot-selection-base and represents a ballot selection for a candidate contest.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| CandidateIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Singular | References a set of <i>Candidate</i> elements. The number of candidates that can be references is unbounded in cases where the ballot selection is for a ticket (e.g. “President/Vice President”, “Governor/Lt Governor”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| EndorsementPartyIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Singular | References a set of <i>Party</i> elements, which signifies one or more endorsing parties for the candidate(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsWriteIn | xs:boolean | Optional | Singular | Signifies if the particular ballot selection allows for write-in candidates. If true, one or more write-in candidates are allowed for this contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <CandidateSelection id="cs10861">
2   <CandidateIds>can10861a can10861b</CandidateIds>
3   <EndorsementPartyIds>par0001</EndorsementPartyIds>
4 </CandidateSelection>

```

BallotSelectionBase

A base model for all ballot selection types: *BallotMeasureSelection*, *CandidateSelection*, and *PartySelection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| SequenceOrder | xs:integer | Optional | Singular | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>OrderedContest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

LatLng

The latitude and longitude of a polling location in WGS 84 format. Both latitude and longitude values are measured in decimal degrees.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Latitude | xs:double | Required | Singular | The latitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Longitude | xs:double | Required | Singular | The longitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Source | xs:string | Optional | Singular | The system used to perform the lookup from location name to lat/lng. For example, this could be the name of a geocoding service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```
1 <PollingLocation id="pl81274">
2   <AddressLine>ALBEMARLE HIGH SCHOOL</AddressLine>
3   <AddressLine>2775 Hydraulic Rd</AddressLine>
4   <AddressLine>Charlottesville, VA 229018917</AddressLine>
5   <HoursOpenId>hours0001</HoursOpenId>
6   <LatLng>
7     <Latitude>38.0754627</Latitude>
8     <Longitude>-78.5014875</Longitude>
9     <Source>Google Maps</Source>
10  </LatLng>
11 </PollingLocation>
```

Candidate

The Candidate object represents a candidate in a contest. If a candidate is running in multiple contests, each contest **must** have its own Candidate object. Candidate objects may **not** be reused between Contests.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| Ballot-Name | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Required | Single | The candidate's name as it will be displayed on the official ballot (e.g. "Ken T. Cuccinelli II"). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the Candidate element containing it. |
| Contact-Information | single-xml-contact-information | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for this Candidate and/or their campaign (see single-xml-contact-information). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| External-Identifiers | <i>External-Identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Another identifier for a candidate that links to another source of information (e.g. a campaign committee ID that links to a campaign finance system). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| File-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Date when the candidate filed for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsIncumbent | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the candidate is the incumbent for the office associated with the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsTopTicket | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the candidate is the top of a ticket that includes multiple candidates. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PartyId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to a <i>Party</i> element with additional information about the candidate's affiliated party. This is the party affiliation that is intended to be presented as part of ballot information. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PersonId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to a <i>Person</i> element with additional information about the candidate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Post-Election-Status | <i>CandidatePost-Election-Status</i> | Optional | Single | Final status of the candidate (e.g. winner, withdrawn, etc. . .). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Pre-Election-Status | <i>CandidatePre-Election-Status</i> | Optional | Single | Registration status of the candidate (e.g. filed, qualified, etc. . .). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <Candidate id="can10961">
2   <BallotName>
3     <Text language="en">Ken T. Cuccinelli II</Text>
4   </BallotName>
5   <PartyId>par0001</PartyId>

```

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```

6   <PersonId>per10961</PersonId>
7 </Candidate>
    
```

PollingLocation

The PollingLocation object represents a site where voters cast or drop off ballots.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Required | Repeats | Represents the various parts of an address to a polling location. For CSV implementations, repeating address_line columns should be incremented, e.g. address_line1, address_line2, address_line3. | At least one valid AddressLine must be present for PollingLocation to be valid. If no valid AddressLine is present, the implementation is required to ignore the PollingLocation element containing it. |
| Directions | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating the polling location. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the polling location is open (NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured HoursOpen element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to an HoursOpen element, which is a schedule of dates and hours during which the polling location is available. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsDropBox | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates if this polling location is a drop box. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsEarlyVoting | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates if this polling location is an early vote site. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatitudeLongitude | single-xml-attribute | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this polling location. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Name of the polling location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PhotoUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Contains a link to an image of the polling location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

LatLng

The latitude and longitude of a polling location in WGS 84 format. Both latitude and longitude values are measured in decimal degrees.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Latitude | xs:double | Required | Single | The latitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Longitude | xs:double | Required | Single | The longitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Source | xs:string | Optional | Single | The system used to perform the lookup from location name to lat/lng. For example, this could be the name of a geocoding service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <PollingLocation id="pl81274">
2   <AddressLine>ALBEMARLE HIGH SCHOOL</AddressLine>
3   <AddressLine>2775 Hydraulic Rd</AddressLine>
4   <AddressLine>Charlottesville, VA 229018917</AddressLine>
5   <HoursOpenId>hours0001</HoursOpenId>
6   <LatLng>
7     <Latitude>38.0754627</Latitude>
8     <Longitude>-78.5014875</Longitude>
9     <Source>Google Maps</Source>
10  </LatLng>
11 </PollingLocation>

```

Locality

The Locality object represents the jurisdiction below the *State* (e.g. county).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| Election-AdministrationId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the locality's <i>ElectionAdministration</i> object. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ExternalIdentifiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Another identifier for a locality that links to another dataset (e.g. OCD-ID) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of a locality. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the Locality element containing it. |
| PollingLocations | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to a set of the locality's :ref:*polling locations <single-xml-polling-location>'s. If early vote centers or ballot drop locations are locality-wide, they should be specified here. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore it. However, the implementation should still check to see if there are any polling locations associated with this locality's state. |
| StateId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References the locality's <i>State</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the Locality element containing it. |
| Type | <i>DistrictType</i> | Optional | Single | Defines the kind of locality (e.g. county, town, et al.), which is one of the various <i>DistrictType</i> enumerations. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Other-Type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for defining a type of locality that falls outside the options listed in <i>DistrictType</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <Locality id="loc70001">
2   <ElectionAdministrationId>ea40001</ElectionAdministrationId>
3   <ExternalIdentifiers>
4     <ExternalIdentifier>
5       <Type>ocd-id</Type>
6       <Value>ocd-division/country:us/state:va/county:albemarle</Value>
7     </ExternalIdentifier>
8   </ExternalIdentifiers>
9   <Name>ALBEMARLE COUNTY</Name>
10  <StateId>st51</StateId>
11  <Type>county</Type>
12 </Locality>

```

Department

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Contact-Information | single-xml-contact-information | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for the election administration body (see single-xml-contact-information). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectionOfficialPersonId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The individual to contact at the election administration office. The specified person should be the <i>election official</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| VoterService | single-xml-voter-service | Optional | Repeats | The types of services and appropriate contact individual available to voters. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

VoterService

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Contact-Information | single-xml-contact-information | Optional | Single | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Optional | Single | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectionOfficialPersonId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>VoterServiceType</i> | Optional | Single | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Other-Type | xs:string | Optional | Single | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <ElectionAdministration id="ea40133">
2   <AbsenteeUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/absenteevoting.html</AbsenteeUri>
3   <AmIRegisteredUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</AmIRegisteredUri>
4   <Department>
5     <ContactInformation label="ci60000">
6       <AddressLine>Washington Building First Floor</AddressLine>
7       <AddressLine>1100 Bank Street</AddressLine>
8       <AddressLine>Richmond, VA 23219</AddressLine>
9       <Name>State Board of Elections</Name>
10    </ContactInformation>
11  </Department>
12  <ElectionsUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</ElectionsUri>
13  <RegistrationUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</RegistrationUri>

```

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```
14 <RulesUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</RulesUri>
15 <WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>
16 <WhereDoIVoteUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhereDoIVoteUri>
17 </ElectionAdministration>
```

ContactInformation

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *ElectionAdministration*, *Office*, *Person*, *Source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Directions | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <i>:ref:‘single-xml-hours-open‘</i> element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | xs:ID | Optional | Single | References an <i>HoursOpen</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatLng | single-xml-lat-lng | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | ignore it. 41 |

Name and AddressLine Usage Note

The Name and AddressLine fields should be chosen so that a display or mailing address can be constructed programmatically by joining the Name and AddressLine fields together. For example, for the following address:

```
Department of Elections  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48  
San Francisco, CA 94102
```

The name could be “Department of Elections” and the first address line could be “1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48.”

However, VIP does not yet support the representation of mailing addresses whose “name” portion spans more than one line, for example:

```
California Secretary of State  
Elections Division  
1500 11th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

For addresses like the above, we recommend choosing a name like, “California Secretary of State, Elections Division” with “1500 11th Street” as the first address line. This would result in a programmatically constructed address like the following:

```
California Secretary of State, Elections Division  
1500 11th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

```
1 <ContactInformation label="ci10861a">  
2   <AddressLine>1600 Pennsylvania Ave</AddressLine>  
3   <AddressLine>Washington, DC 20006</AddressLine>  
4   <Email>president@whitehouse.gov</Email>  
5   <Phone>202-456-1111</Phone>  
6   <Phone annotation="TDD">202-456-6213</Phone>  
7   <Uri>http://www.whitehouse.gov</Uri>  
8 </ContactInformation>
```

HtmlColorString

A restricted string pattern for a six-character hex code representing an HTML color string. The pattern is:

```
[0-9a-f]{6}
```

```
1 <Party id="par0001">  
2   <Abbreviation>REP</Abbreviation>  
3   <Color>e91d0e</Color>  
4   <Name>  
5     <Text language="en">Republican</Text>  
6   </Name>  
7 </Party>
```

Schedule

A sub-portion of the schedule. This describes a range of days, along with one or more set of open and close times for those days, as well as the options describing whether or not appointments are necessary or possible.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Hours | single-xml-hours | Optional | Repeats | Blocks of hours in the date range in which the place is open. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsOnly-ByAppointment | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is only open during the specified time window with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsOr-ByAppointment | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is open during the hours specified time window and may also be open with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsSubject-ToChange | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place should be open during the specified time window, but may be subject to change. People should contact prior to arrival to confirm hours are still accurate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Start-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options begin. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| End-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options end. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Hours

The open and close time for this place. All times must be fully specified, including a timezone offset from UTC.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Start-Time | single-xml-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place opens. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| End-Time | single-xml-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place closes. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

TimeWithZone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

(([01] [0-9] | 2 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] : [0-5] [0-9] | (24 : 00 : 00)) (Z | [+-] ((0 [0-9] | 1 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] | 14

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>

```

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```
5     <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6   </Hours>
7   <Hours>
8     <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9     <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10  </Hours>
11  <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12  <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13 </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>
```

Precinct

The Precinct object represents a precinct, which is contained within a Locality. While the id attribute does not have to be static across feeds for one election, the combination of *Source.VipId*, *Locality.Name*, *Precinct.Ward*, *Precinct.Name*, and *Precinct.Number* should remain constant across feeds for one election (NB: not all of the fields just mentioned are required – omitting those non-required fields is fine).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| Ballot-StyleId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the <i>BallotStyle</i> , which a person who lives in this precinct will vote. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectoralDistrictIds | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the <i>single-xml-electoral-district</i> 's (e.g., congressional district, state house district, school board district) to which the entire precinct/precinct split belongs. Highly Recommended if candidate information is to be provided. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ExternalIdentifiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifier for the precinct that relates to another dataset (e.g. OCD-ID). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsMailOnly | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Determines if the precinct runs mail-only elections. | If the field is missing or invalid, the implementation is required to assume <i>IsMailOnly</i> is false. |
| LocalityId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>Locality</i> that comprises the precinct. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the precinct element containing it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the precinct's name (or number if no name exists). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the precinct element containing it. |
| Number | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the precinct's number (e.g., 32 or 32A – alpha characters are legal). Should be used if the <i>Name</i> field is populated by a name and not a number. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PollingLocationIds | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to the precinct's <i>PollingLocation</i> object(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PrecinctSplitName | xs:string | Optional | Single | If this field is empty, then this <i>Precinct</i> object represents a full precinct. If this field is present, then this <i>Precinct</i> object represents one portion of a split precinct. Each <i>Precinct</i> object that represents one portion of a split precinct must have the same <i>Name</i> value, but different <i>PrecinctSplitName</i> values. See the <i>sample_feed.xml</i> file for examples. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Ward | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the ward the precinct is contained within. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | |

```

1 <Precinct id="pre90111">
2   <BallotStyleId>bs00010</BallotStyleId>
3   <ElectoralDistrictIds>ed60129 ed60311 ed60054</ElectoralDistrictIds>
4   <IsMailOnly>>false</IsMailOnly>
5   <LocalityId>loc70001</LocalityId>
6   <Name>203 - GEORGETOWN</Name>
7   <Number>0203</Number>
8   <PollingLocationIds>p181274</PollingLocationIds>
9 </Precinct>
10 <!--
11   Precinct split. Name and PollingLocationIds are the same but
12   PrecinctSplitName is present, the ElectoralDistrictIds are different,
13   and the BallotStyleId is different.
14 -->
15 <Precinct id="pre90348sp0000">
16   <BallotStyleId>bs00002</BallotStyleId>
17   <ElectoralDistrictIds>ed60129 ed60054 ed60150</ElectoralDistrictIds>
18   <IsMailOnly>>false</IsMailOnly>
19   <LocalityId>loc70001</LocalityId>
20   <Name>201 - JACK JOUETT</Name>
21   <Number>0201</Number>
22   <PollingLocationIds>p100000 p181273 p181662</PollingLocationIds>
23   <PrecinctSplitName>0000</PrecinctSplitName>
24 </Precinct>
25 <Precinct id="pre90348sp0001">
26   <BallotStyleId>bs00015</BallotStyleId>
27   <ElectoralDistrictIds>ed60129 ed60054 ed60267</ElectoralDistrictIds>
28   <IsMailOnly>>false</IsMailOnly>
29   <LocalityId>loc70001</LocalityId>
30   <Name>201 - JACK JOUETT</Name>
31   <Number>0201</Number>
32   <PollingLocationIds>p100000 p181273 p181662</PollingLocationIds>
33   <PrecinctSplitName>0001</PrecinctSplitName>
34 </Precinct>

```

OrderedContest

OrderedContest encapsulates links to the information that comprises a contest and potential ballot selections. OrderedContest elements can be collected within a *BallotStyle* to accurately depict exactly what will show up on a particular ballot in the proper order.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| ContestId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to elements that extend single-xml-contest-base. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the OrderedContest element containing it. |
| OrderedBallotSelectionIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | Links to elements that extend single-xml-ballot-selection-base. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore it. If an OrderedBallotSelectionIds element is not present, the presumed order of the selection will be the order of single-xml-ballot-selection-base-extended elements referenced by the underlying single-xml-contest-base-extended elements. |

```
1 <OrderedContest id="oc20003abc">
2   <ContestId>cc20003</ContestId>
3   <OrderedBallotSelectionIds>cs10961 cs10962 cs10963</OrderedBallotSelectionIds>
4 </OrderedContest>
```

PartyContest

An extension of `single-xml-contest-base` which describes a contest in which the possible ballot selections are of type *PartySelection*. These could include contests in which straight-party selections are allowed, or party-list contests (although these are more common outside of the United States).

ContestBase

A base model for all Contest types: *BallotMeasureContest*, *CandidateContest*, *PartyContest*, and *RetentionContest* (NB: the latter because it extends *BallotMeasureContest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Se- lec- tion- Ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>single-xml-ballot-selection-base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Sub- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- toral- Dis- tric- tId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <i>ElectoralDistrict</i> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- torate- Spec- ifi- ca- tion | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Ex- ter- nal- den- ti- fiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Has- Ro- ta- tion | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the de- | If the field is |

ElectionAdministration

The Election Administration represents an institution for serving a locality's (or state's) election functions.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------|--|---|
| AbsenteeUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies the web address for information on absentee voting. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| AmIRegisteredUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies the web address for information on whether an individual is registered. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Department | single-xml-department | Required | Repeats | Describes the administrative body for a particular voter service. | There must be at least one valid <i>Department</i> in each <i>ElectionAdministration</i> element. If no valid <i>Department</i> objects are present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>ElectionAdministration</i> object that contains it/them. |
| ElectionsUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address the administration's website. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| RegistrationUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address for information on registering to vote. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| RulesUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI for the election rules and laws (if any) for the jurisdiction of the administration. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| WhatsOnMyBallotUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address for information on what is on an individual's ballot. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| WhereDoIVoteUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | The Specifies web address for information on where an individual votes based on their address. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Department

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Contact-Information | single-xml-contact-information | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for the election administration body (see single-xml-contact-information). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectionOfficialPersonId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The individual to contact at the election administration office. The specified person should be the <i>election official</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| VoterService | single-xml-voter-service | Optional | Repeats | The types of services and appropriate contact individual available to voters. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

VoterService

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Contact-Information | single-xml-contact-information | Optional | Single | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Optional | Single | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectionOfficialPersonId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>VoterServiceType</i> | Optional | Single | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Other-Type | xs:string | Optional | Single | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <ElectionAdministration id="ea40133">
2   <AbsenteeUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/absenteevoting.html</AbsenteeUri>
3   <AmIRegisteredUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</AmIRegisteredUri>
4   <Department>
5     <ContactInformation label="ci60000">
6       <AddressLine>Washington Building First Floor</AddressLine>
7       <AddressLine>1100 Bank Street</AddressLine>
8       <AddressLine>Richmond, VA 23219</AddressLine>
9       <Name>State Board of Elections</Name>
10    </ContactInformation>
11  </Department>
12  <ElectionsUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</ElectionsUri>
13  <RegistrationUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</RegistrationUri>

```

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```
14 <RulesUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</RulesUri>
15 <WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>
16 <WhereDoIVoteUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhereDoIVoteUri>
17 </ElectionAdministration>
```

ContactInformation

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *ElectionAdministration*, *Office*, *Person*, *Source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Directions | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref:‘single-xml-hours-open‘ element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format).</i> | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | xs:ID | Optional | Single | References an <i>HoursOpen</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatLng | single-xml-lat-lng | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Name and AddressLine Usage Note

The Name and AddressLine fields should be chosen so that a display or mailing address can be constructed programmatically by joining the Name and AddressLine fields together. For example, for the following address:

```
Department of Elections
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102
```

The name could be “Department of Elections” and the first address line could be “1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48.”

However, VIP does not yet support the representation of mailing addresses whose “name” portion spans more than one line, for example:

```
California Secretary of State
Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

For addresses like the above, we recommend choosing a name like, “California Secretary of State, Elections Division” with “1500 11th Street” as the first address line. This would result in a programmatically constructed address like the following:

```
California Secretary of State, Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

```
1 <ContactInformation label="ci10861a">
2   <AddressLine>1600 Pennsylvania Ave</AddressLine>
3   <AddressLine>Washington, DC 20006</AddressLine>
4   <Email>president@whitehouse.gov</Email>
5   <Phone>202-456-1111</Phone>
6   <Phone annotation="TDD">202-456-6213</Phone>
7   <Uri>http://www.whitehouse.gov</Uri>
8 </ContactInformation>
```

VoterService

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|--|---|
| Contact-Information | single-xml-contact-information | Op-tional | Sin-gle | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Op-tional | Sin-gle | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectionOfficialPersonId | xs:IDREF | Op-tional | Sin-gle | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>VoterServiceType</i> | Op-tional | Sin-gle | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Other-Type | xs:string | Op-tional | Sin-gle | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <ElectionAdministration id="ea40133">
2   <AbsenteeUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/absenteevoting.html</AbsenteeUri>
3   <AmIRegisteredUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</AmIRegisteredUri>
4   <Department>
5     <ContactInformation label="ci60000">
6       <AddressLine>Washington Building First Floor</AddressLine>
7       <AddressLine>1100 Bank Street</AddressLine>
8       <AddressLine>Richmond, VA 23219</AddressLine>
9       <Name>State Board of Elections</Name>
10    </ContactInformation>
11  </Department>
12  <ElectionsUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</ElectionsUri>
13  <RegistrationUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</RegistrationUri>
14  <RulesUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</RulesUri>
15  <WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>
16  <WhereDoIVoteUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhereDoIVoteUri>
17 </ElectionAdministration>

```

Hours

The open and close time for this place. All times must be fully specified, including a timezone offset from UTC.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Start-Time | single-xml-time-with-zone | Op-tional | Sin-gle | The time at which this place opens. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| End-Time | single-xml-time-with-zone | Op-tional | Sin-gle | The time at which this place closes. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

TimeWithZone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

(([01] [0-9] | 2 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] : [0-5] [0-9] | (24:00:00)) (Z | [+ -] ((0 [0-9] | 1 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] | 14

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
5       <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6     </Hours>
7     <Hours>
8       <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9       <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10    </Hours>
11    <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12    <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13  </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>

```

RetentionContest

RetentionContest extends *BallotMeasureContest* and represents a contest where a candidate is retained in a position (e.g. a judge).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| CandidateId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>Candidate</i> being retained. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the RetentionContest element containing it. |
| OfficeId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the information about the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <RetentionContest id="rc40001">
2   <BallotSelectionIds>rc40001a rc40001b</BallotSelectionIds>
3   <BallotTitle>
4     <Text language="en">Retention of Supreme Court Justice</Text>
5     <Text language="es">La retención de juez de la Corte Suprema</Text>
6   </BallotTitle>
7   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed60129</ElectoralDistrictId>
8   <Name>Judicial Retention, Supreme Court</Name>
9   <CandidateId>can14444</CandidateId>
10  <OfficeId>off20006</OfficeId>
11 </RetentionContest>

```

StreetSegment

A Street Segment objection represents a portion of a street and the links to the precinct that this geography (i.e., segment) is contained within. The start address house number must be less than the end address house number unless the segment consists of only one address, in which case these values are equal.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Address-Direction | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the (inter-)cardinal direction of the entire address. An example is “NE” for the address “100 E Capitol St NE.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| City | xs:string | Required | Single | The city specifies the city or town of the address. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IncludesAllAddresses | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Specifies if the segment covers every address on this street. If this is <i>true</i> , then the values of StartHouseNumber and EndHouseNumber should be ignored. The value of OddEvenBoth must be <i>both</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IncludesAllStreets | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Specifies if the segment covers every street in this city. If this is <i>true</i> , then the values of OddEvenBoth , StartHouseNumber , EndHouseNumber , StreetName , and Zip should be ignored. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Odd-Even-Both | <i>OebEnum</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies whether the odd side of the street (in terms of house numbers), the even side, or both are included in the street segment. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment containing it. |
| PrecinctId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | References the <i>Precinct</i> that contains the entire street segment. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. |
| StartHouseNumber | xs:integer | Optional | Single | The house number at which the street segment starts. This value is necessary for the street segment to make any sense. Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value must be less than or equal to EndHouseNumber . If IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value is ignored. | Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, if the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. If the StartHouseNumber is greater than the EndHouseNumber , the implementation should ignore the element containing them. |
| EndHouseNumber | xs:integer | Optional | Single | The house number at which the street segment ends. This value is necessary for the street segment to make any sense. Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, it must be greater than or equal to StartHouseNumber . If IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value is ignored. | Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, if the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. If the EndHouseNumber is less than the StartHouseNumber , the implementation should ignore the element containing it. |
| State | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the two-letter state abbreviation of the address. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Street-Direction | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the (inter-)cardinal direction of the street address (e.g., the “E” in “100 E Capitol St NE”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Street-Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents the name of the street for the address. A special wildcard, “*”, denotes every street in the given city/town. It optionally may contain street direction, street suffix or address direction (e.g., both “Capitol” and “E Capitol St NE” are acceptable for the address “100 E Capitol St NE”), however this is not preferred. Preferred is street name alone (e.g. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
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```
1 <StreetSegment id="ss999999">
2   <City>Charlottesville</City>
3   <IncludesAllAddresses>true</IncludesAllAddresses>
4   <OddEvenBoth>both</OddEvenBoth>
5   <PrecinctId>pre99999</PrecinctId>
6   <State>VA</State>
7   <StreetName>CHAPEL HILL</StreetName>
8   <StreetSuffix>RD</StreetSuffix>
9   <Zip>22901</Zip>
10 </StreetSegment>
11 <StreetSegment id="ss309904">
12   <City>GREENWOOD</City>
13   <OddEvenBoth>both</OddEvenBoth>
14   <PrecinctId>pre92145</PrecinctId>
15   <StartHouseNumber>1</StartHouseNumber>
16   <EndHouseNumber>201</EndHouseNumber>
17   <State>VA</State>
18   <StreetName>MISTY MOUNTAIN</StreetName>
19   <StreetSuffix>RD</StreetSuffix>
20   <Zip>22943</Zip>
21 </StreetSegment>
```

CandidateContest

CandidateContest extends single-xml-contest-base and represents a contest among candidates.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Number-Elected | xs:int | Optional | Single | Number of candidates that are elected in the contest (i.e. “N” of N-of-M). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| OfficeIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>Office</i> elements, if available, which give additional information about the offices. Note: the order of the office IDs must be in the same order as the candidates listed in <i>BallotSelectionIds</i> . E.g., if the various <i>BallotSelectionIds</i> reference <i>CandidateSelection</i> elements which reference the candidate for President first and Vice-President second, the <i>OfficeIds</i> should reference the office of President first and the office of Vice-President second. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Primary-PartyIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References <i>Party</i> elements, if the contest is related to a particular party. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| VotesAllowed | xs:int | Optional | Single | Maximum number of votes/write-ins per voter in this contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <CandidateContest id="cc20003">
2   <BallotSelectionIds>cs10961 cs10962 cs10963</BallotSelectionIds>
3   <BallotTitle>
4     <Text language="en">Governor of Virginia</Text>
5   </BallotTitle>
6   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed60129</ElectoralDistrictId>
7   <Name>Governor</Name>
8   <NumberElected>1</NumberElected>
9   <OfficeId>off0000</OfficeId>
10  <VotesAllowed>1</VotesAllowed>
11 </CandidateContest>

```

ContestBase

A base model for all Contest types: *BallotMeasureContest*, *CandidateContest*, *PartyContest*, and *RetentionContest* (NB: the latter because it extends *BallotMeasureContest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| Ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Se- lec- tion- Ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>single-xml-ballot-selection-base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Sub- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- toral- Dis- tric- tId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <i>ElectoralDistrict</i> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- torate- Spec- ifi- ca- tion | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Ex- ter- nal- den- ti- fiers | <i>External-identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Has- Ro- ta- tion | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | |
| Se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the de- | If the field is |

Party

This element describes a political party and the metadata associated with them. These can also include “dummy” parties to indicate a type of contest (e.g., a Voter Nominated *CandidateContest* can use the **PrimaryPartyIds** field and a dummy Party object to indicate that the contest is a “Top-Two” primary).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the party name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Color | single-xml-html-color-string | Optional | Single | The preferred display color for the party, for use in maps and other displays. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Ex- ter- nal- iden- ti- fiers | <i>External-identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link this party to other related data sets (e.g. a campaign finance system, etc). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsWritten | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Signals if this political party is one that is officially recognized by a local, state, or federal organization, or is a “write-in” in jurisdictions which allow candidates to free-form enter their political affiliation. If this field is not present then it is assumed to be false. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Lo- goUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Web address of a logo to use in displays. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | The name of the party. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

HtmlColorString

A restricted string pattern for a six-character hex code representing an HTML color string. The pattern is:

[0-9a-f]{6}

```

1 <Party id="par0001">
2   <Abbreviation>REP</Abbreviation>
3   <Color>e91d0e</Color>
4   <Name>
5     <Text language="en">Republican</Text>

```

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```
6 </Name>
7 </Party>
```

InternationalizedText

`InternationalizedText` allows for support of multiple languages for a string. `InternationalizedText` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID). Examples of `InternationalizedText` can be seen in:

- Any element that extends `single-xml-contest-base`
- Any element that extends `single-xml-ballot-selection-base`
- *Candidate*
- `single-xml-contact-information`
- *Election*
- *ElectionAdministration*
- *Office*
- *Party*
- *Person*
- *PollingLocation*
- *Source*

NOTE: `InternationalizedText` is not currently supported for VIP feeds in the CSV format.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| Text | <i>LanguageString</i> | Required | Repeats | Contains the translations of a particular string of text. | At least one valid Text must be present for <code>InternationalizedText</code> to be valid. If no valid Text is present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>InternationalizedText</code> element. |

BallotMeasureSelection

Represents the possible selection (e.g. yes/no, recall/do not recall, et al) for a *BallotMeasureContest* that would appear on the ballot. `BallotMeasureSelection` extends `single-xml-ballot-selection-base`.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------|--|---|
| Selection | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Required | Single | Selection text for a <i>BallotMeasureContest</i> | If the element is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>BallotMeasureSelection</code> containing it. |

```

1 <BallotMeasureSelection id="bms30001a">
2   <Selection label="bms30001at">
3     <Text language="en">Yes</Text>
4     <Text language="es">Sí</Text>
5   </Selection>
6 </BallotMeasureSelection>
7 <BallotMeasureSelection id="bms30001b">
8   <Selection label="bms30001bt">
9     <Text language="en">No</Text>
10    <Text language="es">No</Text>
11  </Selection>
12 </BallotMeasureSelection>

```

BallotSelectionBase

A base model for all ballot selection types: *BallotMeasureSelection*, *CandidateSelection*, and *PartySelection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Sequence-Order | xs:int | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>OrderedContest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

HoursOpen

A structured way of describing the days and hours that a place such as a *Office* or *PollingLocation* is open, or that an event such as an *Election* is happening. The range of days indicated by the *StartDate* and *EndDate* in each **'Schedule'_** element should not overlap with peer **'Schedule'_** elements. For example, it is invalid to specify a schedule from 10/01/2016 to 10/31/2016 and also specify a schedule from 10/10/2016 to 10/11/2016 within the same *HoursOpen* element.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------|---------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Schedule | single-xml-schedule | Required | Repeats | Defines a block of days and hours that a place will be open. | At least one valid 'Schedule'_ must be present for <i>HoursOpen</i> to be valid. If no valid 'Schedule'_ is present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>HoursOpen</i> element. |

Schedule

A sub-portion of the schedule. This describes a range of days, along with one or more set of open and close times for those days, as well as the options describing whether or not appointments are necessary or possible.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Hours | single-xml-hours | Optional | Repeats | Blocks of hours in the date range in which the place is open. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsOnly-ByAppointment | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is only open during the specified time window with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsOr-ByAppointment | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is open during the hours specified time window and may also be open with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsSubject-ToChange | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place should be open during the specified time window, but may be subject to change. People should contact prior to arrival to confirm hours are still accurate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Start-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options begin. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| End-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options end. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Hours

The open and close time for this place. All times must be fully specified, including a timezone offset from UTC.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Start-Time | single-xml-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place opens. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| End-Time | single-xml-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place closes. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

TimeWithZone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

(([01] [0-9] | 2 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] : [0-5] [0-9] | (24 : 00 : 00)) (Z | [+-] ((0 [0-9] | 1 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] | 14

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>

```

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```

5     <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6   </Hours>
7   <Hours>
8     <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9     <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10  </Hours>
11  <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12  <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13 </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>

```

ElectoralDistrict

The `ElectoralDistrict` object represents the geographic area in which contests are held. Examples of `ElectoralDistrict` include: “the state of Maryland”, “Virginia’s 5th Congressional District”, or “Union School District”. The geographic area that comprises a `ElectoralDistrict` is defined by which precincts link to the `ElectoralDistrict`.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| ExternalIdentifiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link to external datasets (e.g. OCD-IDs) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the electoral area’s name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ElectoralDistrict</code> object containing it. |
| Number | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Specifies the district number of the district (e.g. 34, in the case of the 34th State Senate District). If a number is not applicable, instead of leaving the field blank, leave this field out of the object; empty strings are not valid for xs:integer fields. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>DistrictType</i> | Required | Single | Specifies the type of electoral area. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ElectoralDistrict</code> object containing it. |
| OtherType | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging a new <i>DistrictType</i> option when Type is specified as “other”. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <ElectoralDistrict id="ed60129">
2   <ExternalIdentifiers>
3     <ExternalIdentifier>
4       <Type>ocd-id</Type>
5       <Value>ocd-division/country:us/state:va</Value>
6     </ExternalIdentifier>

```

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```

7     <ExternalIdentifier>
8         <Type>fips</Type>
9         <Value>51</Value>
10    </ExternalIdentifier>
11    </ExternalIdentifiers>
12    <Name>Commonwealth of Virginia</Name>
13    <Type>state</Type>
14 </ElectoralDistrict>
    
```

PartySelection

This element extends single-xml-ballot-selection-base to support contests in which the selections can be groups of one or more parties.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| PartyIds | xs:IDREFS | Required | Single | One or more <i>Party</i> IDs which collectively represent a ballot selection. | If one or more parties referenced are invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the PartySelection containing it. |

BallotSelectionBase

A base model for all ballot selection types: *BallotMeasureSelection*, *CandidateSelection*, and *PartySelection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Sequence-Order | xs:int | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>OrderedContest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Enumerations

IdentifierType

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|--|
| fips | Federal Information Processing Standards codes for <i>states</i> , <i>counties</i> , and <i>cities</i> . |
| local-level | An identifier generated or used by local governments or organizations. |
| national-level | An identifier generated or used by national organizations. |
| ocd-id | An <i>Open Civic Data Division Identifier</i> . |
| state-level | An identifier generated or used by state governments or organizations. |
| other | Any identifier which doesn't fall into any of the above categories. |

CandidatePostElectionStatus

| Tag | Description |
|--------------------|--|
| advanced-to-runoff | For contests in which the top N candidates advance to the next round. |
| projected-winner | A candidate is expected to win, but official results are not yet complete. |
| winner | The candidate has officially won. |
| withdrawn | The candidate has withdrawn from the contest. |

CandidatePreElectionStatus

| Tag | Description |
|-----------|--|
| filed | The candidate has filed for office but not yet been qualified. |
| qualified | The candidate has qualified for the contest. |
| withdrawn | The candidate has withdrawn from the contest (but may still be on the ballot). |
| write-in | |

VoterServiceType

| Tag | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| absentee-ballots | This department handles the dispatch, tracking, and return of absentee ballots. |
| overseas-voting | The department for overseas, military, and other outside-the-U.S. voters. |
| polling-places | This department handles the selection and management of polling places. |
| voter-registration | The department that manages voter registration. |
| other | Any other service not covered by the above descriptions. |

DistrictType

Enumeration describing the set of possible jurisdiction and district types. Please use the enumeration value which most accurately reflects the type of district or jurisdiction in your state or county. For example, “town” and “township” may mean different things – or not be defined at all – in your state, so please use the definition which best matches your local meaning.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|--|
| borough | A borough |
| city | A city. |
| city-council | A specific seat/jurisdiction for a city, town, or village council. |
| congressional | A United States congressional district. |
| county | A county. |
| county-council | A county council district, either in its entirety or for a specific seat. |
| judicial | A judicial district. |
| municipality | A civil division which is not a town, city, village, or county. |
| national | The United States. |
| school | A school district. |
| special | A special-purpose district that exist separate from general-purpose districts. |
| state | A state, district, commonwealth, or U.S. territory. |
| state-house | The lower house of a state legislature. |
| state-senate | The upper house of a state legislature. |
| town | A town. |
| township | A township, which may be different than a town. See the Wikipedia article . |
| utility | A non-water public or municipal utility district. |
| village | A village district. |
| ward | A ward. |
| water | A water district. |
| other | Any district not described above. Use the <i>OtherType</i> field to describe it. |

OfficeTermType

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| full-term | This election is for an office for which the existing term has been completed. |
| unexpired-term | This election is for an office for which the original term is not yet complete. |

OebEnum

| Tag | Description |
|------|--|
| both | Both even and odd addresses within the range. |
| even | Only even-numbered addresses within the range. |
| odd | Only odd-numbered addresses within the range. |

BallotMeasureType

A list of the various types of ballot measures. States may have different legal definitions of each type; [Wikipedia](#) has more details about each type. These values are to help states with multiple types of non-candidate-based contests distinguish between each type; as such, the definitions in this table are simple guidelines. Ultimately it is up to the state or local election official to choose the value which best describes the ballot measure(s) in their jurisdiction.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| ballot-measure | A catch-all for generic types of non-candidate-based contests. |
| initiative | These are usually citizen-driven measures to be placed on the ballot. These could include both statutory changes and constitutional amendments. |
| referendum | These could include measures to repeal existing acts of legislation, legislative referrals, and legislatively-referred state constitutional amendments. |
| other | Anything that does not fall into the above categories. |

VoteVariation

Note that the descriptions below describe what the enumeration names stand for in the context of the VIP spec, rather than provide general definitions of the election terms that the names correspond to. For example, even though there are majority voting methods that are not “1-of-m” (e.g. ranked choice voting), we constrain “majority” to 1-of-m. We do this to eliminate any source of ambiguity when a single enumeration value needs to be assigned to a contest.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| 1-of-m | A method where each voter can select up to one option. |
| approval | Approval voting , where each voter can select as many options as desired. |
| borda | Borda count , where each voter can rank the options, and the rankings are assigned point values. |
| cumulative | Cumulative voting , where each voter can distribute their vote to up to N options. |
| majority | A 1-of-m method where the winner needs more than 50% of the vote to be elected. |
| n-of-m | A method where each voter can select up to N options. |
| plurality | A 1-of-m method where the option with the most votes is elected, regardless of whether the option has more than 50% of the vote. |
| proportional | A proportional representation method (other than STV), which is any system that elects winners in proportion to the total vote. |
| range | Range voting , where each voter can select a score for each option. |
| rcv | Ranked choice voting (RCV) , where each voter can rank the options, and the ballots are counted in rounds. Also known as instant-runoff voting (IRV) and the single transferable vote (STV) . |
| super-majority | A 1-of-m method where the winner needs more than some predetermined fraction of the vote to be elected, where the fraction is more than 50% (e.g. three-fifths or two-thirds). |
| other | Used when the vote variation type is not included in this enumeration. |

Elements (Separate Pages)

BallotMeasureContest

The `BallotMeasureContest` provides information about a ballot measure before the voters, including summary statements on each side. Extends `ContestBase`.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Con-Statement | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a statement in opposition to the referendum. It does not necessarily appear on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| EffectOfAbstain | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies what effect abstaining (i.e. not voting) on this proposition will have (i.e. whether abstaining is considered a vote against it). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Full-Text | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the full text of the referendum as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| InfoUri | <i>xs:anyURI</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI that links to additional information about the referendum. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PassageThreshold | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the threshold of votes that the referendum needs in order to pass. The default is a simple majority (i.e. 50% plus one vote). Other common thresholds are “three-fifths” and “two-thirds”. If there are competing initiatives , information about their effect on the passage of the <i>BallotMeasureContest</i> would go here. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ProStatement | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a statement in favor of the referendum. It does not necessarily appear on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Summary-Text | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a short summary of the referendum that is on the ballot, below the title, but above the text. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>Ballot-Measure-Type</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the particular type of ballot measure. Must be one of the valid <i>BallotMeasureType</i> options. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | 69 |
| Other-Type | <i>xs:string</i> | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging a new <i>BallotMeasureType</i> option, when Type is specified as “other.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the |

```
1 <BallotMeasureContest id="bmc30001">
2   <BallotSelectionIds>bms30001a bms30001b</BallotSelectionIds>
3   <BallotTitle>
4     <Text language="en">State of the State</Text>
5     <Text language="es">Estado del Estado.</Text>
6   </BallotTitle>
7   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed60129</ElectoralDistrictId>
8   <Name>Referendum on Virginia</Name>
9   <ConStatement label="bmc30001con">
10    <Text language="en">This is no good.</Text>
11    <Text language="es">Esto no es bueno.</Text>
12  </ConStatement>
13  <EffectOfAbstain label="bmc30001abs">
14    <Text language="en">Nothing will happen.</Text>
15    <Text language="es">Nada pasará.</Text>
16  </EffectOfAbstain>
17  <ProStatement label="bmc30001pro">
18    <Text language="en">Everything will be great.</Text>
19    <Text language="es">Todo va a estar bien.</Text>
20  </ProStatement>
21  <Type>referendum</Type>
22 </BallotMeasureContest>
```

ContestBase

A base model for all Contest types: *BallotMeasureContest*, *CandidateContest*, *PartyContest*, and *RetentionContest* (NB: the latter because it extends *BallotMeasureContest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| Ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Se- lec- tion- Ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>BallotSelectionBase</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Sub- Ti- tle | <i>Inter-national-ized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Ti- tle | <i>Inter-national-ized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- toral- Dis- tric- tId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <code>ElectoralDistrict</code> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- torate- Spec- ifi- ca- tion | <i>Inter-national-ized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Ex- ter- nal- den- ti- fiers | <i>Ex-ter-nall-den-ti-fiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Has- Ro- ta- tion | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | 71 |
| Se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the de- | If the field is |

BallotMeasureSelection

Represents the possible selection (e.g. yes/no, recall/do not recall, et al) for a *BallotMeasureContest* that would appear on the ballot. *BallotMeasureSelection* extends *BallotSelectionBase*.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|------------------------------|------------------|-----------|--|---|
| Se-lection | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Re-quired | Single | Selection text for a <i>BallotMeasureContest</i> | If the element is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>BallotMeasureSelection</i> containing it. |

```

1 <BallotMeasureSelection id="bms30001a">
2   <Selection label="bms30001at">
3     <Text language="en">Yes</Text>
4     <Text language="es">Sí</Text>
5   </Selection>
6 </BallotMeasureSelection>
7 <BallotMeasureSelection id="bms30001b">
8   <Selection label="bms30001bt">
9     <Text language="en">No</Text>
10    <Text language="es">No</Text>
11  </Selection>
12 </BallotMeasureSelection>

```

BallotSelectionBase

A base model for all ballot selection types: *BallotMeasureSelection*, *CandidateSelection*, and *PartySelection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|-----------|---|---|
| Se-quence-Order | <i>xs:int</i> | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>OrderedContest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

BallotStyle

A container for the contests/measures on the ballot.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|------------------|------------|-----------|---|---|
| ImageUri | <i>xs:anyURI</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI that returns an image of the sample ballot. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Ordered-ContestIds | <i>xs:IDREF</i> | Optional | Single | Reference to a set of <i>OrderedContest</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PartyIds | <i>xs:IDREF</i> | Optional | Single | Reference to a set of <i>:ref:'multi-xml-party's</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```
1 <BallotStyle id="bs00000">
2   <OrderedContestIds>oc20003 oc20004 oc20005 oc20025 oc20355 oc20449</
   ↳OrderedContestIds>
3 </BallotStyle>
```

Candidate

The Candidate object represents a candidate in a contest. If a candidate is running in multiple contests, each contest **must** have its own Candidate object. Candidate objects may **not** be reused between Contests.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|--|
| Ballot-Name | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Required | Single | The candidate's name as it will be displayed on the official ballot (e.g. "Ken T. Cuccinelli II"). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the Candidate element containing it. |
| Contact-Information | <i>ContactInformation</i> | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for this Candidate and/or their campaign (see <i>ContactInformation</i>). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| External-Identifiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Another identifier for a candidate that links to another source of information (e.g. a campaign committee ID that links to a campaign finance system). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| File-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Date when the candidate filed for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsIncumbent | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the candidate is the incumbent for the office associated with the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsTopTicket | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the candidate is the top of a ticket that includes multiple candidates. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PartyId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to a <i>Party</i> element with additional information about the candidate's affiliated party. This is the party affiliation that is intended to be presented as part of ballot information. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PersonId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to a <i>Person</i> element with additional information about the candidate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Post-Election-Status | <i>CandidatePostElectionStatus</i> | Optional | Single | Final status of the candidate (e.g. winner, withdrawn, etc...). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Pre-Election-Status | <i>CandidatePreElectionStatus</i> | Optional | Single | Registration status of the candidate (e.g. filed, qualified, etc...). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <Candidate id="can10961">
2   <BallotName>
3     <Text language="en">Ken T. Cuccinelli II</Text>
4   </BallotName>
5   <PartyId>par0001</PartyId>
6   <PersonId>per10961</PersonId>

```

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</Candidate>

CandidateContest

CandidateContest extends *ContestBase* and represents a contest among candidates.

| Tag | Data Type | Required | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------|------------|----------|----------|--|---|
| Number-Elected | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Number of candidates that are elected in the contest (i.e. "N" of N-of-M). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| OfficeIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>Office</i> elements, if available, which give additional information about the offices. Note: the order of the office IDs must be in the same order as the candidates listed in <i>BallotSelectionIds</i> . E.g., if the various <i>BallotSelectionIds</i> reference <i>CandidateSelection</i> elements which reference the candidate for President first and Vice-President second, the <i>OfficeIds</i> should reference the office of President first and the office of Vice-President second. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Primary-PartyIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References <i>Party</i> elements, if the contest is related to a particular party. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| VotesAllowed | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Maximum number of votes/write-ins per voter in this contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <CandidateContest id="cc20003">
2   <BallotSelectionIds>cs10961 cs10962 cs10963</BallotSelectionIds>
3   <BallotTitle>
4     <Text language="en">Governor of Virginia</Text>
5   </BallotTitle>
6   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed60129</ElectoralDistrictId>
7   <Name>Governor</Name>
8   <NumberElected>1</NumberElected>
9   <OfficeId>off0000</OfficeId>

```

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```
10 <VotesAllowed>1</VotesAllowed>  
11 </CandidateContest>
```

ContestBase

A base model for all Contest types: *BallotMeasureContest*, *CandidateContest*, *PartyContest*, and *RetentionContest* (NB: the latter because it extends *BallotMeasureContest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| Ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Se- lec- tion- Ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>BallotSelectionBase</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Sub- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- toral- Dis- tric- tId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <code>ElectoralDistrict</code> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- torate- Spec- ifi- ca- tion | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Ex- ter- nal- den- ti- fiers | <i>External-identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Has- Ro- ta- tion | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | |
| Se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the de- | If the field is |

CandidateSelection

CandidateSelection extends *BallotSelectionBase* and represents a ballot selection for a candidate contest.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| CandidateIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>Candidate</i> elements. The number of candidates that can be references is unbounded in cases where the ballot selection is for a ticket (e.g. “President/Vice President”, “Governor/Lt Governor”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| EndorsementPartyIds | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>Party</i> elements, which signifies one or more endorsing parties for the candidate(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsWriteIn | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Signifies if the particular ballot selection allows for write-in candidates. If true, one or more write-in candidates are allowed for this contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <CandidateSelection id="cs10861">
2   <CandidateIds>can10861a can10861b</CandidateIds>
3   <EndorsementPartyIds>par0001</EndorsementPartyIds>
4 </CandidateSelection>

```

BallotSelectionBase

A base model for all ballot selection types: *BallotMeasureSelection*, *CandidateSelection*, and *PartySelection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| SequenceOrder | xs:integer | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>OrderedContest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Election

The Election object represents an Election Day, which usually consists of many individual contests and/or referenda. A feed must contain **exactly one** Election object. All relationships in the feed (e.g., street segment to precinct to polling location) are assumed to relate only to the Election specified by this object. It is permissible, and recommended, to combine unrelated contests (e.g., a special election and a general election) that occur on the same day into one feed with one Election object.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| Date | xs:date | Required | Single | Specifies when the election is being held. The <i>Date</i> is considered to be in the timezone local to the state holding the election. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the Election element containing it. |
| Election-Type | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Specifies the highest controlling authority for election (e.g., federal, state, county, city, town, etc.) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| StateId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Specifies a link to the <i>State</i> element where the election is being held. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the Election element containing it. |
| Is-Statewide | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the election is statewide. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to default to "yes". |
| Name | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | The name for the election (NB: while optional, this element is highly recommended). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| RegistrationInfo | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Specifies information about registration for this election either as text or a URI. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Absentee-Ballot-Info | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Specifies information about requesting absentee ballots either as text or a URI | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ResultsUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Contains a URI where results for the election may be found | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | |
| PollingHours | Hours | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that Election Day polling loca- | If the element |

```
1 <Election id="ele30000">
2   <AbsenteeRequestDeadline>2013-10-30</AbsenteeRequestDeadline>
3   <Date>2013-11-05</Date>
4   <ElectionType>
5     <Text language="en">General</Text>
6     <Text language="es">Generales</Text>
7   </ElectionType>
8   <HasElectionDayRegistration>>false</HasElectionDayRegistration>
9   <HoursOpenId>hours0001</HoursOpenId>
10  <IsStatewide>>true</IsStatewide>
11  <Name>
12    <Text language="en">2013 Statewide General</Text>
13  </Name>
14  <RegistrationDeadline>2013-10-15</RegistrationDeadline>
15  <ResultsUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/ElectionResults.html</ResultsUri>
16  <StateId>st51</StateId>
17 </Election>
```

ElectionAdministration

The Election Administration represents an institution for serving a locality's (or state's) election functions.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------|--|---|
| AbsenteeUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies the web address for information on absentee voting. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| AmIRegisteredUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies the web address for information on whether an individual is registered. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Department | <i>Department</i> | Required | Repeats | Describes the administrative body for a particular voter service. | There must be at least one valid <i>Department</i> in each <i>ElectionAdministration</i> element. If no valid <i>Department</i> objects are present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>ElectionAdministration</i> object that contains it/them. |
| ElectionUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address the administration's website. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| RegistrationUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address for information on registering to vote. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| RulesUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI for the election rules and laws (if any) for the jurisdiction of the administration. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| WhatsOnMyBallotUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address for information on what is on an individual's ballot. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| WhereDoIVoteUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | The Specifies web address for information on where an individual votes based on their address. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Department

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Contact-Information | <i>ContactInformation</i> | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for the election administration body (see <i>ContactInformation</i>). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectionOfficialPersonId | <code>xs:IDREF</code> | Optional | Single | The individual to contact at the election administration office. The specified person should be the <i>election official</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| VoterService | multi-xml-voter-service | Optional | Repeats | The types of services and appropriate contact individual available to voters. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

VoterService

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Contact-Information | <i>ContactInformation</i> | Optional | Single | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Optional | Single | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectionOfficialPersonId | <code>xs:IDREF</code> | Optional | Single | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>VoterServiceType</i> | Optional | Single | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Other-Type | <code>xs:string</code> | Optional | Single | If Type is "other", OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <ElectionAdministration id="ea40133">
2   <AbsenteeUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/absenteevoting.html</AbsenteeUri>
3   <AmIRegisteredUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</AmIRegisteredUri>
4   <Department>
5     <ContactInformation label="ci60000">
6       <AddressLine>Washington Building First Floor</AddressLine>
7       <AddressLine>1100 Bank Street</AddressLine>
8       <AddressLine>Richmond, VA 23219</AddressLine>
9       <Name>State Board of Elections</Name>
10    </ContactInformation>
11  </Department>
12  <ElectionsUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</ElectionsUri>

```

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```
13 <RegistrationUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</RegistrationUri>
14 <RulesUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</RulesUri>
15 <WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>
16 <WhereDoIVoteUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhereDoIVoteUri>
17 </ElectionAdministration>
```

ContactInformation

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *ElectionAdministration*, *Office*, *Person*, *Source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. <i>See usage note.</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Directions | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref:‘multi-xml-hours-open‘ element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format).</i> | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | References an <i>HoursOpen</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatLng | <i>LatLng</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. <i>See usage note.</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Name and AddressLine Usage Note

The Name and AddressLine fields should be chosen so that a display or mailing address can be constructed programmatically by joining the Name and AddressLine fields together. For example, for the following address:

```
Department of Elections
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102
```

The name could be “Department of Elections” and the first address line could be “1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48.”

However, VIP does not yet support the representation of mailing addresses whose “name” portion spans more than one line, for example:

```
California Secretary of State
Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

For addresses like the above, we recommend choosing a name like, “California Secretary of State, Elections Division” with “1500 11th Street” as the first address line. This would result in a programmatically constructed address like the following:

```
California Secretary of State, Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

```
1 <ContactInformation label="ci10861a">
2   <AddressLine>1600 Pennsylvania Ave</AddressLine>
3   <AddressLine>Washington, DC 20006</AddressLine>
4   <Email>president@whitehouse.gov</Email>
5   <Phone>202-456-1111</Phone>
6   <Phone annotation="TDD">202-456-6213</Phone>
7   <Uri>http://www.whitehouse.gov</Uri>
8 </ContactInformation>
```

VoterService

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Contact-Information | <i>Contact-Information</i> | Optional | Single | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>InternationalizedText</i> | Optional | Single | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectionOfficialPersonId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>VoterServiceType</i> | Optional | Single | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Other-Type | xs:string | Optional | Single | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <ElectionAdministration id="ea40133">
2   <AbsenteeUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/absenteevoting.html</AbsenteeUri>
3   <AmIRegisteredUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</AmIRegisteredUri>
4   <Department>
5     <ContactInformation label="ci60000">
6       <AddressLine>Washington Building First Floor</AddressLine>
7       <AddressLine>1100 Bank Street</AddressLine>
8       <AddressLine>Richmond, VA 23219</AddressLine>
9       <Name>State Board of Elections</Name>
10    </ContactInformation>
11  </Department>
12  <ElectionsUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</ElectionsUri>
13  <RegistrationUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</RegistrationUri>
14  <RulesUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</RulesUri>
15  <WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhatIsOnMyBallotUri>
16  <WhereDoIVoteUri>https://www.vote.virginia.gov/</WhereDoIVoteUri>
17 </ElectionAdministration>

```

ElectoralDistrict

The `ElectoralDistrict` object represents the geographic area in which contests are held. Examples of `ElectoralDistrict` include: “the state of Maryland”, “Virginia’s 5th Congressional District”, or “Union School District”. The geographic area that comprises a `ElectoralDistrict` is defined by which precincts link to the `ElectoralDistrict`.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| External-identifiers | <i>External-identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link to external datasets (e.g. OCD-IDs) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the electoral area's name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the ElectoralDistrict object containing it. |
| Number | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Specifies the district number of the district (e.g. 34, in the case of the 34th State Senate District). If a number is not applicable, instead of leaving the field blank, leave this field out of the object; empty strings are not valid for xs:integer fields. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Type | <i>District-Type</i> | Required | Single | Specifies the type of electoral area. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the ElectoralDistrict object containing it. |
| Other-Type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging a new <i>DistrictType</i> option when Type is specified as "other". | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <ElectoralDistrict id="ed60129">
2   <ExternalIdentifiers>
3     <ExternalIdentifier>
4       <Type>ocd-id</Type>
5       <Value>ocd-division/country:us/state:va</Value>
6     </ExternalIdentifier>
7     <ExternalIdentifier>
8       <Type>fips</Type>
9       <Value>51</Value>
10    </ExternalIdentifier>
11  </ExternalIdentifiers>
12  <Name>Commonwealth of Virginia</Name>
13  <Type>state</Type>
14 </ElectoralDistrict>

```

ExternalIdentifier

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Type | <i>IdentifierType</i> | Required | Single | Specifies the type of identifier. Must be one of the valid types as defined by <i>IdentifierType</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ElectionIdentifier</code> containing it. |
| Other-Type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging an <code>ExternalIdentifier</code> type that falls outside the options listed in <i>IdentifierType</i> . Type should be set to “other” when using this field. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Value | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the identifier. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ElectionIdentifier</code> containing it. |

```

1 <ExternalIdentifiers>
2   <ExternalIdentifier>
3     <Type>ocd-id</Type>
4     <Value>ocd-division/country:us/state:nc/county:durham</Value>
5   </ExternalIdentifier>
6   <ExternalIdentifier>
7     <Type>FIPS</Type>
8     <Value>37063</Value>
9   </ExternalIdentifier>
10  <ExternalIdentifier>
11    <Type>OTHER</Type>
12    <OtherType>GNIS</OtherType>
13    <Value>1008550</Value>
14  </ExternalIdentifier>
15  <external_identifier>
16    <Type>OTHER</Type>
17    <OtherType>census</OtherType>
18    <Value>99063</Value>
19  </external_identifier>
20 </ExternalIdentifiers>

```

ExternalIdentifiers

The `ExternalIdentifiers` element allows VIP data to connect with external datasets (e.g. candidates with campaign finance datasets, electoral geographies with [OCD-IDs](#) that allow for greater connectivity with additional datasets, etc...). Examples for `ExternalIdentifiers` can be found on the objects that support them:

- *Candidate*
- Any element that extends *ContestBase*
- *ElectoralDistrict*
- *Locality*

- *Office*
- *Party*
- *Precinct*
- *State*

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------|--|---|
| ExternalIdentifier | <i>ExternalIdentifier</i> | Required | Repeats | Defines the identifier and the type of identifier it is (see ' ExternalIdentifier '_ for complete information). | At least one valid ' ExternalIdentifier '_ must be present for ExternalIdentifiers to be valid. If no valid ' ExternalIdentifier '_ is present, the implementation is required to ignore the ExternalIdentifiers element. |

HoursOpen

A structured way of describing the days and hours that a place such as a *Office* or *PollingLocation* is open, or that an event such as an *Election* is happening. The range of days indicated by the *StartDate* and *EndDate* in each *Schedule* element should not overlap with peer *Schedule* elements. For example, it is invalid to specify a schedule from 10/01/2016 to 10/31/2016 and also specify a schedule from 10/10/2016 to 10/11/2016 within the same *HoursOpen* element.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|--|---|
| Schedule | <i>Schedule</i> | Required | Repeats | Defines a block of days and hours that a place will be open. | At least one valid <i>Schedule</i> must be present for HoursOpen to be valid. If no valid <i>Schedule</i> is present, the implementation is required to ignore the HoursOpen element. |

Schedule

A sub-portion of the schedule. This describes a range of days, along with one or more set of open and close times for those days, as well as the options describing whether or not appointments are necessary or possible.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Hours | <i>Hours</i> | Optional | Repeats | Blocks of hours in the date range in which the place is open. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsOnly-ByAppointment | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is only open during the specified time window with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsOr-ByAppointment | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is open during the hours specified time window and may also be open with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsSubject-ToChange | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place should be open during the specified time window, but may be subject to change. People should contact prior to arrival to confirm hours are still accurate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Start-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options begin. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| End-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options end. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Hours

The open and close time for this place. All times must be fully specified, including a timezone offset from UTC.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Start-Time | <i>Time-With-Zone</i> | Optional | Single | The time at which this place opens. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| End-Time | <i>Time-With-Zone</i> | Optional | Single | The time at which this place closes. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

TimeWithZone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

(([01] [0-9] | 2 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] : [0-5] [0-9] | (24 : 00 : 00)) (Z | [+-] ((0 [0-9] | 1 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] | 14

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>

```

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```

5     <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6 </Hours>
7 <Hours>
8     <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9     <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10 </Hours>
11 <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12 <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13 </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>

```

InternationalizedText

InternationalizedText allows for support of multiple languages for a string. InternationalizedText has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID). Examples of InternationalizedText can be seen in:

- Any element that extends *ContestBase*
- Any element that extends *BallotSelectionBase*
- *Candidate*
- *ContactInformation*
- *Election*
- *ElectionAdministration*
- *Office*
- *Party*
- *Person*
- *PollingLocation*
- *Source*

NOTE: InternationalizedText is not currently supported for VIP feeds in the CSV format.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------|-----------------------|------------|-----------|---|---|
| Text | <i>LanguageString</i> | Re-quired | Re-peats | Contains the translations of a particular string of text. | At least one valid Text must be present for InternationalizedText to be valid. If no valid Text is present, the implementation is required to ignore the InternationalizedText element. |

LanguageString

LanguageString extends `xs:string` and can contain text from any language. LanguageString has one required attribute, `language`, that must contain the 2-character `language code` for the type of language LanguageString contains.

```

1 <BallotTitle>
2   <Text language="en">Retention of Supreme Court Justice</Text>
3   <Text language="es">La retención de juez de la Corte Suprema</Text>
4 </BallotTitle>

```

Locality

The Locality object represents the jurisdiction below the *State* (e.g. county).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|--|--|
| Election-AdministrationId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the locality's <i>ElectionAdministration</i> object. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ExternalIdentifiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Another identifier for a locality that links to another dataset (e.g. <i>OCD-ID</i>) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of a locality. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the Locality element containing it. |
| PollingLocations | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to a set of the locality's :ref:'polling locations <multi-xml-polling-location>'s. If early vote centers or ballot drop locations are locality-wide, they should be specified here. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore it. However, the implementation should still check to see if there are any polling locations associated with this locality's state. |
| StateId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References the locality's <i>State</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the Locality element containing it. |
| Type | <i>DistrictType</i> | Optional | Single | Defines the kind of locality (e.g. county, town, et al.), which is one of the various <i>DistrictType enumerations</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Other-Type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for defining a type of locality that falls outside the options listed in <i>DistrictType</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <Locality id="loc70001">
2   <ElectionAdministrationId>ea40001</ElectionAdministrationId>
3   <ExternalIdentifiers>
4     <ExternalIdentifier>
5       <Type>ocd-id</Type>
6       <Value>ocd-division/country:us/state:va/county:albemarle</Value>
7     </ExternalIdentifier>
8   </ExternalIdentifiers>
9   <Name>ALBEMARLE COUNTY</Name>
10  <StateId>st51</StateId>

```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```

11 <Type>county</Type>
12 </Locality>
    
```

Office

`Office` represents the office associated with a contest or district (e.g. Alderman, Mayor, School Board, et al).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| ContactInformation | <i>ContactInformation</i> | Optional | Repeats | Specifies the contact information for the office and/or individual holding the office. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | A brief description of the office and its purpose. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectoralDistrictId | <code>xs:IDREF</code> | Required | Single | Links to the <i>ElectoralDistrict</i> element associated with the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>Office</code> element containing it. |
| ExternalIdentifiers | <i>External-identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link this office to other related datasets (e.g. campaign finance systems, OCD IDs, et al.). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| FilingDeadline | <code>xs:date</code> | Optional | Single | Specifies the date and time when a candidate must have filed for the contest for the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsPartisan | <code>xs:boolean</code> | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the office is partisan. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Required | Single | The name of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>Office</code> element containing it. |
| OfficeHolderPersonIds | <code>xs:IDREF</code> | Optional | Single | Links to the <i>Person</i> element(s) that hold additional information about the current office holder(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Term | <i>Term</i> | Optional | Single | Defines the term the office can be held. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Term

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Type | <i>OfficeTermType</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the type of office term (see <i>OfficeTermType</i> for valid values). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| Start-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the start date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| End-Date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the end date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <Office id="off0000">
2   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed60129</ElectoralDistrictId>
3   <FilingDeadline>2013-01-01</FilingDeadline>
4   <IsPartisan>>false</IsPartisan>
5   <Name>
6     <Text language="en">Governor</Text>
7   </Name>
8   <Term>
9     <Type>full-term</Type>
10  </Term>
11 </Office>

```

ContactInformation

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. *ContactInformation* is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *ElectionAdministration*, *Office*, *Person*, *Source*). *ContactInformation* has an optional attribute *label*, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, *label* may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. <i>See usage note.</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Directions | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref:‘multi-xml-hours-open‘ element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format).</i> | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | References an <i>HoursOpen</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatLng | <i>LatLng</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. <i>See usage note.</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 1.1. XML Specification | | | | | ignore it. |

Name and AddressLine Usage Note

The Name and AddressLine fields should be chosen so that a display or mailing address can be constructed programmatically by joining the Name and AddressLine fields together. For example, for the following address:

```
Department of Elections
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102
```

The name could be “Department of Elections” and the first address line could be “1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48.”

However, VIP does not yet support the representation of mailing addresses whose “name” portion spans more than one line, for example:

```
California Secretary of State
Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

For addresses like the above, we recommend choosing a name like, “California Secretary of State, Elections Division” with “1500 11th Street” as the first address line. This would result in a programmatically constructed address like the following:

```
California Secretary of State, Elections Division
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

```
1 <ContactInformation label="ci10861a">
2   <AddressLine>1600 Pennsylvania Ave</AddressLine>
3   <AddressLine>Washington, DC 20006</AddressLine>
4   <Email>president@whitehouse.gov</Email>
5   <Phone>202-456-1111</Phone>
6   <Phone annotation="TDD">202-456-6213</Phone>
7   <Uri>http://www.whitehouse.gov</Uri>
8 </ContactInformation>
```

OrderedContest

OrderedContest encapsulates links to the information that comprises a contest and potential ballot selections. OrderedContest elements can be collected within a *BallotStyle* to accurately depict exactly what will show up on a particular ballot in the proper order.

| Tag | Data Type | Required | Repeats | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|--|--|
| ContestId | xs:string | Required | Single | Links to elements that extend <i>ContestBase</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>OrderedContest</code> element containing it. |
| OrderedBallotSelectionIds | xs:string | Optional | Single | Links to elements that extend <i>BallotSelectionBase</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore it. If an <code>OrderedBallotSelectionIds</code> element is not present, the presumed order of the selection will be the order of <i>BallotSelectionBase</i> -extended elements referenced by the underlying <i>ContestBase</i> -extended elements. |

```

1 <OrderedContest id="oc20003abc">
2   <ContestId>cc20003</ContestId>
3   <OrderedBallotSelectionIds>cs10961 cs10962 cs10963</OrderedBallotSelectionIds>
4 </OrderedContest>

```

Party

This element describes a political party and the metadata associated with them. These can also include “dummy” parties to indicate a type of contest (e.g., a Voter Nominated *CandidateContest* can use the **PrimaryPartyIds** field and a dummy Party object to indicate that the contest is a “Top-Two” primary).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--|--|---------------|----------|---|---|
| Ab- bre- via- tion | <code>xs:string</code> | Op- tional | Single | An abbreviation for the party name. | If the field is in- valid or not present, then the implemen- tation is required to ignore it. |
| Color | <i>Html- Col- orString</i> | Op- tional | Single | The preferred display color for the party, for use in maps and other displays. | If the element is in- valid or not present, then the implemen- tation is required to ignore it. |
| Ex- ter- nal- iden- ti- fiers | <i>Ex- ter- nal- iden- ti- fiers</i> | Op- tional | Single | Other identifiers that link this party to other related data sets (e.g. a campaign finance system, etc). | If the element is in- valid or not present, then the implemen- tation is required to ignore it. |
| IsWrite- in | <code>boolean</code> | Op- tional | Single | Signals if this political party is one that is officially recog- nized by a local, state, or federal organization, or is a “write- in” in jurisdictions which allow candidates to free-form enter their political affiliation. If this field is not present then it is assumed to be false. | If the field is in- valid or not present, then the implemen- tation is required to ignore it. |
| Lo- goUri | <code>anyURI</code> | Op- tional | Single | Web address of a logo to use in displays. | If the field is in- valid or not present, then the implemen- tation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | <i>In- ter- na- tion- al- ized- Text</i> | Op- tional | Single | The name of the party. | If the element is in- valid or not present, then the implemen- tation is required to ignore it. |

HtmlColorString

A restricted string pattern for a six-character hex code representing an HTML color string. The pattern is:

`[0-9a-f]{6}`

```

1 <Party id="par0001">
2   <Abbreviation>REP</Abbreviation>
3   <Color>e91d0e</Color>
4   <Name>
5     <Text language="en">Republican</Text>
6   </Name>
7 </Party>

```

PartyContest

An extension of *ContestBase* which describes a contest in which the possible ballot selections are of type *PartySelection*. These could include contests in which straight-party selections are allowed, or party-list contests (although these are more common outside of the United States).

ContestBase

A base model for all Contest types: *BallotMeasureContest*, *CandidateContest*, *PartyContest*, and *RetentionContest* (NB: the latter because it extends *BallotMeasureContest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| Ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Se- lec- tion- Ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>BallotSelectionBase</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Sub- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Bal- lot- Ti- tle | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- toral- Dis- tric- tId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <code>ElectoralDistrict</code> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Elec- torate- Spec- ifi- ca- tion | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Ex- ter- nal- den- ti- fiers | <i>External-identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Has- Ro- ta- tion | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 100 | | | | | |
| Se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the de- | If the field is |

PartySelection

This element extends *BallotSelectionBase* to support contests in which the selections can be groups of one or more parties.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|---|---|
| PartyIds | xs:IDREFS | Required | Single | One or more <i>Party</i> IDs which collectively represent a ballot selection. | If one or more parties referenced are invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>PartySelection</i> containing it. |

BallotSelectionBase

A base model for all ballot selection types: *BallotMeasureSelection*, *CandidateSelection*, and *PartySelection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|------------|-----------|--|---|
| Sequence-Order | xs:int | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>Ordered-Contest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Person

Person defines information about a person. The person may be a candidate, election administrator, or elected official. These elements reference *Person*:

- *Candidate*
- *ElectionAdministration*
- *Office*

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| Contact-Information | <i>Contact-Information</i> | Optional | Repeats | Specifies contact information for the person. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Date-Of-Birth | xs:date | Optional | Single | Represents the individual's date of birth. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| External-Identifiers | <i>External-Identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Identifiers for this person. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| First-Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's first name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Full-Name | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's full name (NB: this information is <i>InternationalizedText</i> because it sometimes appears on ballots in multiple languages). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Gender | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's gender. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Last-Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's last name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Middle-Name | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | Represents any number of names between an individual's first and last names (e.g. John Ronald Reuel Tolkien). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Nickname | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's nickname. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PartyId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Refers to the associated <i>Party</i> . This information is intended to be used by feed consumers to help them disambiguate the person's identity, but not to be presented as part of any ballot information. For that see <i>Candidate PartyId</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Prefix | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a prefix associated with a person (e.g. Dr.). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Profession | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's profession (NB: this information is <i>InternationalizedText</i> because it sometimes appears on ballots in multiple languages). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```
1 <Person id="per50001">
2   <ContactInformation label="ci60002">
3     <Email>rwashburne@albemarle.org</Email>
4     <Phone>4349724173</Phone>
5   </ContactInformation>
6   <FirstName>RICHARD</FirstName>
7   <LastName>WASHBURNE</LastName>
8   <MiddleName>J.</MiddleName>
9   <Nickname>JAKE</Nickname>
10  <Title>
11    <Text language="en">General Registrar Physical</Text>
12  </Title>
13 </Person>
```

ContactInformation

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *ElectionAdministration*, *Office*, *Person*, *Source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. <i>See usage note.</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Directions | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref:‘multi-xml-hours-open‘ element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format.</i>) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | xs:ID | Optional | Single | References an <i>HoursOpen</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatLng | <i>LatLng</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. <i>See usage note.</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Name and AddressLine Usage Note

The Name and AddressLine fields should be chosen so that a display or mailing address can be constructed programmatically by joining the Name and AddressLine fields together. For example, for the following address:

```
Department of Elections  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48  
San Francisco, CA 94102
```

The name could be “Department of Elections” and the first address line could be “1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48.”

However, VIP does not yet support the representation of mailing addresses whose “name” portion spans more than one line, for example:

```
California Secretary of State  
Elections Division  
1500 11th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

For addresses like the above, we recommend choosing a name like, “California Secretary of State, Elections Division” with “1500 11th Street” as the first address line. This would result in a programmatically constructed address like the following:

```
California Secretary of State, Elections Division  
1500 11th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814
```

```
1 <ContactInformation label="ci10861a">  
2   <AddressLine>1600 Pennsylvania Ave</AddressLine>  
3   <AddressLine>Washington, DC 20006</AddressLine>  
4   <Email>president@whitehouse.gov</Email>  
5   <Phone>202-456-1111</Phone>  
6   <Phone annotation="TDD">202-456-6213</Phone>  
7   <Uri>http://www.whitehouse.gov</Uri>  
8 </ContactInformation>
```

PollingLocation

The PollingLocation object represents a site where voters cast or drop off ballots.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| AddressLine | xs:string | Required | Repeats | Represents the various parts of an address to a polling location. For CSV implementations, repeating address_line columns should be incremented, e.g. address_line1, address_line2, address_line3. | At least one valid AddressLine must be present for PollingLocation to be valid. If no valid AddressLine is present, the implementation is required to ignore the PollingLocation element containing it. |
| Directions | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating the polling location. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Hours [deprecated] | Internationalized-Text | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the polling location is open (NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured HoursOpen element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| HoursOpenId | IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to an HoursOpen element, which is a schedule of dates and hours during which the polling location is available. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsDropBox | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates if this polling location is a drop box. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsEarlyVoting | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates if this polling location is an early vote site. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| LatLng | LatLng | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this polling location. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Name of the polling location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PhotoUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Contains a link to an image of the polling location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

LatLng

The latitude and longitude of a polling location in [WGS 84](#) format. Both latitude and longitude values are measured in decimal degrees.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Latitude | xs:double | Required | Single | The latitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Longitude | xs:double | Required | Single | The longitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Source | xs:string | Optional | Single | The system used to perform the lookup from location name to lat/Ing. For example, this could be the name of a geocoding service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <PollingLocation id="pl81274">
2   <AddressLine>ALBEMARLE HIGH SCHOOL</AddressLine>
3   <AddressLine>2775 Hydraulic Rd</AddressLine>
4   <AddressLine>Charlottesville, VA 229018917</AddressLine>
5   <HoursOpenId>hours0001</HoursOpenId>
6   <LatIng>
7     <Latitude>38.0754627</Latitude>
8     <Longitude>-78.5014875</Longitude>
9     <Source>Google Maps</Source>
10  </LatIng>
11 </PollingLocation>

```

Precinct

The Precinct object represents a precinct, which is contained within a Locality. While the id attribute does not have to be static across feeds for one election, the combination of *Source.VipId*, *Locality.Name*, *Precinct.Ward*, *Precinct.Name*, and *Precinct.Number* should remain constant across feeds for one election (NB: not all of the fields just mentioned are required – omitting those non-required fields is fine).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| Ballot-StyleId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the <i>BallotStyle</i> , which a person who lives in this precinct will vote. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ElectoralDistrictIds | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the :ref:*multi-xml-electoral-district's (e.g., congressional district, state house district, school board district) to which the entire precinct/precinct split belongs. Highly Recommended if candidate information is to be provided. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ExternalIdentifiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifier for the precinct that relates to another dataset (e.g. OCD-ID). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IsMailOnly | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Determines if the precinct runs mail-only elections. | If the field is missing or invalid, the implementation is required to assume <i>IsMailOnly</i> is false. |
| LocalityId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>Locality</i> that comprises the precinct. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the precinct element containing it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the precinct's name (or number if no name exists). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the precinct element containing it. |
| Number | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the precinct's number (e.g., 32 or 32A – alpha characters are legal). Should be used if the <i>Name</i> field is populated by a name and not a number. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PollingLocationIds | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to the precinct's <i>PollingLocation</i> object(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PrecinctSplitName | xs:string | Optional | Single | If this field is empty, then this <i>Precinct</i> object represents a full precinct. If this field is present, then this <i>Precinct</i> object represents one portion of a split precinct. Each <i>Precinct</i> object that represents one portion of a split precinct must have the same <i>Name</i> value, but different <i>PrecinctSplitName</i> values. See the <i>sample_feed.xml</i> file for examples. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Ward | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the ward the precinct is contained within. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore |


```

1 <Precinct id="pre90111">
2   <BallotStyleId>bs00010</BallotStyleId>
3   <ElectoralDistrictIds>ed60129 ed60311 ed60054</ElectoralDistrictIds>
4   <IsMailOnly>>false</IsMailOnly>
5   <LocalityId>loc70001</LocalityId>
6   <Name>203 - GEORGETOWN</Name>
7   <Number>0203</Number>
8   <PollingLocationIds>p181274</PollingLocationIds>
9 </Precinct>
10 <!--
11   Precinct split. Name and PollingLocationIds are the same but
12   PrecinctSplitName is present, the ElectoralDistrictIds are different,
13   and the BallotStyleId is different.
14 -->
15 <Precinct id="pre90348sp0000">
16   <BallotStyleId>bs00002</BallotStyleId>
17   <ElectoralDistrictIds>ed60129 ed60054 ed60150</ElectoralDistrictIds>
18   <IsMailOnly>>false</IsMailOnly>
19   <LocalityId>loc70001</LocalityId>
20   <Name>201 - JACK JOUETT</Name>
21   <Number>0201</Number>
22   <PollingLocationIds>p100000 p181273 p181662</PollingLocationIds>
23   <PrecinctSplitName>0000</PrecinctSplitName>
24 </Precinct>
25 <Precinct id="pre90348sp0001">
26   <BallotStyleId>bs00015</BallotStyleId>
27   <ElectoralDistrictIds>ed60129 ed60054 ed60267</ElectoralDistrictIds>
28   <IsMailOnly>>false</IsMailOnly>
29   <LocalityId>loc70001</LocalityId>
30   <Name>201 - JACK JOUETT</Name>
31   <Number>0201</Number>
32   <PollingLocationIds>p100000 p181273 p181662</PollingLocationIds>
33   <PrecinctSplitName>0001</PrecinctSplitName>
34 </Precinct>

```

RetentionContest

RetentionContest extends *BallotMeasureContest* and represents a contest where a candidate is retained in a position (e.g. a judge).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| CandidateId | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>Candidate</i> being retained. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the RetentionContest element containing it. |
| OfficeId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the information about the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <RetentionContest id="rc40001">
2   <BallotSelectionIds>rc40001a rc40001b</BallotSelectionIds>
3   <BallotTitle>
4     <Text language="en">Retention of Supreme Court Justice</Text>

```

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```

5   <Text language="es">La retención de juez de la Corte Suprema</Text>
6   </BallotTitle>
7   <ElectoralDistrictId>ed60129</ElectoralDistrictId>
8   <Name>Judicial Retention, Supreme Court</Name>
9   <CandidateId>can14444</CandidateId>
10  <OfficeId>off20006</OfficeId>
11 </RetentionContest>
    
```

Source

The Source object represents the organization that is publishing the information. This object is the only required object in the feed file, and only one source object is allowed to be present.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of the organization that is providing the information. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the <code>Source</code> element containing it. |
| VipId | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the ID of the organization. VIP uses FIPS codes for this ID. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the <code>Source</code> element containing it. |
| Date-Time | xs:dateTime | Required | Single | Specifies the date and time of the feed production. The date/time is considered to be in the timezone local to the organization. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Description | <i>Internationalized-Text</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies both the nature of the organization providing the data and what data is in the feed. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| OrganizationUri | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI to the home page of the organization publishing the data. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Feed-ContactId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to the <i>Person</i> who will respond to inquiries about the information contained within the file. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| TouUri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies the website where the Terms of Use for the information in this file can be found. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Version | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the version of the data | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 <Source id="src1">
2   <DateTime>2013-10-24T14:25:28</DateTime>
3   <Description>
4     <Text language="en">SBE is the official source for Virginia data</Text>
5   </Description>
6   <Name>State Board of Elections, Commonwealth of Virginia</Name>
7   <OrganizationUri>http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/</OrganizationUri>
8   <VipId>51</VipId>
    
```

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```
9 <Version>5.0</Version>
10 </Source>
```

State

The State object includes state-wide election information. The ID attribute is recommended to be the state’s FIPS code, along with the prefix “st”.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| ElectionAdministrationId | xs:ID | Optional | Single | Links to the state’s election administration object. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ExternalIdentifiers | <i>ExternalIdentifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifier for the state that relates to another dataset (e.g. OCD-ID). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of a state, such as Alabama. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| PollingLocations | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to the state’s <i>polling locations</i> . If early vote centers or ballot drop locations are state-wide (e.g., anyone in the state can use them), they can be specified here, but you are encouraged to only use the <i>Precinct</i> element. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```
1 <State id="st51">
2   <ElectionAdministrationId>ea40133</ElectionAdministrationId>
3   <ExternalIdentifiers>
4     <ExternalIdentifier>
5       <Type>ocd-id</Type>
6       <Value>ocd-division/country:us/state:va</Value>
7     </ExternalIdentifier>
8   </ExternalIdentifiers>
9   <Name>Virginia</Name>
10 </State>
```

StreetSegment

A Street Segment objection represents a portion of a street and the links to the precinct that this geography (i.e., segment) is contained within. The start address house number must be less than the end address house number unless the segment consists of only one address, in which case these values are equal.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------|----------|--|--|
| Address-Direction | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the (inter-)cardinal direction of the entire address. An example is “NE” for the address “100 E Capitol St NE.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| City | xs:string | Required | Single | The city specifies the city or town of the address. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IncludesAllAddresses | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Specifies if the segment covers every address on this street. If this is <i>true</i> , then the values of StartHouseNumber and EndHouseNumber should be ignored. The value of OddEvenBoth must be <i>both</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| IncludesAllStreets | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Specifies if the segment covers every street in this city. If this is <i>true</i> , then the values of OddEvenBoth , StartHouseNumber , EndHouseNumber , StreetName , and Zip should be ignored. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Odd-Even-Both | <i>Oevenum</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies whether the odd side of the street (in terms of house numbers), the even side, or both are included in the street segment. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment containing it. |
| PrecinctId | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | References the <i>Precinct</i> that contains the entire street segment. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. |
| Start-House-Number | xs:integer | Optional | Single | The house number at which the street segment starts. This value is necessary for the street segment to make any sense. Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value must be less than or equal to EndHouseNumber . If IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value is ignored. | Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, if the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. If the StartHouseNumber is greater than the EndHouseNumber , the implementation should ignore the element containing them. |
| End-House-Number | xs:integer | Optional | Single | The house number at which the street segment ends. This value is necessary for the street segment to make any sense. Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, it must be greater than or equal to StartHouseNumber . If IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value is ignored. | Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, if the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. If the EndHouseNumber is less than the StartHouseNumber , the implementation should ignore the element containing it. |
| State | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the two-letter state abbreviation of the address. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Street-Direction | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the (inter-)cardinal direction of the street address (e.g., the “E” in “100 E Capitol St NE”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| Street-Name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents the name of the street for the address. A special wildcard, “*”, denotes every street in the given city/town. It optionally may contain street direction, street suffix or address direction (e.g., both “Capitol” and “E Capitol St NE” are acceptable for the address “100 E Capitol St NE”), however this is not preferred. Preferred is street name alone (e.g. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
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```

1 <StreetSegment id="ss999999">
2   <City>Charlottesville</City>
3   <IncludesAllAddresses>>true</IncludesAllAddresses>
4   <OddEvenBoth>both</OddEvenBoth>
5   <PrecinctId>pre99999</PrecinctId>
6   <State>VA</State>
7   <StreetName>CHAPEL HILL</StreetName>
8   <StreetSuffix>RD</StreetSuffix>
9   <Zip>22901</Zip>
10 </StreetSegment>
11 <StreetSegment id="ss309904">
12   <City>GREENWOOD</City>
13   <OddEvenBoth>both</OddEvenBoth>
14   <PrecinctId>pre92145</PrecinctId>
15   <StartHouseNumber>1</StartHouseNumber>
16   <EndHouseNumber>201</EndHouseNumber>
17   <State>VA</State>
18   <StreetName>MISTY MOUNTAIN</StreetName>
19   <StreetSuffix>RD</StreetSuffix>
20   <Zip>22943</Zip>
21 </StreetSegment>

```

Enumerations (Separate Pages)

BallotMeasureType

A list of the various types of ballot measures. States may have different legal definitions of each type; [Wikipedia](#) has more details about each type. These values are to help states with multiple types of non-candidate-based contests distinguish between each type; as such, the definitions in this table are simple guidelines. Ultimately it is up to the state or local election official to choose the value which best describes the ballot measure(s) in their jurisdiction.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| ballot-measure | A catch-all for generic types of non-candidate-based contests. |
| initiative | These are usually citizen-driven measures to be placed on the ballot. These could include both statutory changes and constitutional amendments. |
| referendum | These could include measures to repeal existing acts of legislation, legislative referrals, and legislatively-referred state constitutional amendments. |
| other | Anything that does not fall into the above categories. |

CandidatePostElectionStatus

| Tag | Description |
|--------------------|--|
| advanced-to-runoff | For contests in which the top N candidates advance to the next round. |
| projected-winner | A candidate is expected to win, but official results are not yet complete. |
| winner | The candidate has officially won. |
| withdrawn | The candidate has withdrawn from the contest. |

CandidatePreElectionStatus

| Tag | Description |
|-----------|--|
| filed | The candidate has filed for office but not yet been qualified. |
| qualified | The candidate has qualified for the contest. |
| withdrawn | The candidate has withdrawn from the contest (but may still be on the ballot). |
| write-in | |

DistrictType

Enumeration describing the set of possible jurisdiction and district types. Please use the enumeration value which most accurately reflects the type of district or jurisdiction in your state or county. For example, “town” and “township” may mean different things – or not be defined at all – in your state, so please use the definition which best matches your local meaning.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|--|
| borough | A borough |
| city | A city. |
| city-council | A specific seat/jurisdiction for a city, town, or village council. |
| congressional | A United States congressional district. |
| county | A county. |
| county-council | A county council district, either in its entirety or for a specific seat. |
| judicial | A judicial district. |
| municipality | A civil division which is not a town, city, village, or county. |
| national | The United States. |
| school | A school district. |
| special | A special-purpose district that exist separate from general-purpose districts. |
| state | A state, district, commonwealth, or U.S. territory. |
| state-house | The lower house of a state legislature. |
| state-senate | The upper house of a state legislature. |
| town | A town. |
| township | A township, which may be different than a town. See the Wikipedia article . |
| utility | A non-water public or municipal utility district. |
| village | A village district. |
| ward | A ward. |
| water | A water district. |
| other | Any district not described above. Use the <i>OtherType</i> field to describe it. |

IdentifierType

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| fips | Federal Information Processing Standards codes for states , counties , and cities . |
| local-level | An identifier generated or used by local governments or organizations. |
| national-level | An identifier generated or used by national organizations. |
| ocd-id | An Open Civic Data Division Identifier . |
| state-level | An identifier generated or used by state governments or organizations. |
| other | Any identifier which doesn't fall into any of the above categories. |

OebEnum

| Tag | Description |
|------|--|
| both | Both even and odd addresses within the range. |
| even | Only even-numbered addresses within the range. |
| odd | Only odd-numbered addresses within the range. |

OfficeTermType

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| full-term | This election is for an office for which the existing term has been completed. |
| unexpired-term | This election is for an office for which the original term is not yet complete. |

VoteVariation

Note that the descriptions below describe what the enumeration names stand for in the context of the VIP spec, rather than provide general definitions of the election terms that the names correspond to. For example, even though there are majority voting methods that are not “1-of-m” (e.g. ranked choice voting), we constrain “majority” to 1-of-m. We do this to eliminate any source of ambiguity when a single enumeration value needs to be assigned to a contest.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| 1-of-m | A method where each voter can select up to one option. |
| ap-approval | Approval voting, where each voter can select as many options as desired. |
| borda | Borda count, where each voter can rank the options, and the rankings are assigned point values. |
| cumulative | Cumulative voting, where each voter can distribute their vote to up to N options. |
| majority | A 1-of-m method where the winner needs more than 50% of the vote to be elected. |
| n-of-m | A method where each voter can select up to N options. |
| plurality | A 1-of-m method where the option with the most votes is elected, regardless of whether the option has more than 50% of the vote. |
| proportional | A proportional representation method (other than STV), which is any system that elects winners in proportion to the total vote. |
| range | Range voting, where each voter can select a score for each option. |
| rcv | Ranked choice voting (RCV), where each voter can rank the options, and the ballots are counted in rounds. Also known as instant-runoff voting (IRV) and the single transferable vote (STV). |
| super-majority | A 1-of-m method where the winner needs more than some predetermined fraction of the vote to be elected, where the fraction is more than 50% (e.g. three-fifths or two-thirds). |
| other | Used when the vote variation type is not included in this enumeration. |

VoterServiceType

| Tag | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| absentee-ballots | This department handles the dispatch, tracking, and return of absentee ballots. |
| overseas-voting | The department for overseas, military, and other outside-the-U.S. voters. |
| polling-places | This department handles the selection and management of polling places. |
| voter-registration | The department that manages voter registration. |
| other | Any other service not covered by the above descriptions. |

2.1 CSV Specification

- *Getting Started*
- *Elements & Enumerations*
 - *Single-page Format*
 - *Elements (Separate Pages)*
 - *Enumerations (Separate Pages)*

2.1.1 Getting Started

The CSV files contain election information, with files containing links between each other, that is compiled into an XML feed that represents the data according to the XML specification. See the '[sample xml file](#)'_ and '[xsd file](#)'_ for more details.

Certain files are required to serve different types of information. Below is a listing of which files are required for different VIP data sets.

Required files:

- election.txt
- source.txt
- state.txt
- department.txt

Files to serve polling locations:

- election_administration.txt

- department.txt
- locality.txt
- polling_location.txt
- precinct.txt
- street_segment.txt

Files to serve candidate contests:

- candidate.txt
- candidate_contest.txt
- candidate_selection.txt
- office.txt

Files to serve referenda and ballot measures:

- ballot_measure_contest.txt
- ballot_measure_selection.txt

Files to serve retention contests:

- retention_contest.txt

CSV files must be comma-delimited, UTF-8 .txt files, named according to the specification. The id attribute for the state object should be the state's FIPS number. The id attributes are not required to remain constant for the same piece of semantic data across multiple productions of the feed (e.g. candidate Michael Smith, running for dogcatcher in Iowa, is not required to have the same candidate id attribute each time the state of Iowa publishes data). Please see our XML *Best Practices* document when creating IDs and labels for your elements.

2.1.2 Elements & Enumerations

Single-page Format

CSV Elements & Enumerations (Single Page)

- *Elements*
 - *state*
 - *term*
 - *office*
 - * *term*
 - * *contact_information*
 - *election*
 - *ballot_selection_base*
 - *source*
 - *ballot_measure_contest*
 - * *contest_base*

- *contest_base*
- *time_with_zone*
- *language_string*
- *ballot_style*
- *external_identifier*
- *person*
 - * *contact_information*
- *external_identifiers*
- *voter_service*
- *contact_information*
- *candidate_selection*
 - * *ballot_selection_base*
- *lat_long*
- *candidate*
- *polling_location*
 - * *lat_long*
- *locality*
- *department*
 - * *voter_service*
 - * *contact_information*
- *html_color_string*
- *schedule*
 - * *hours*
 - *time_with_zone*
- *precinct*
- *ordered_contest*
- *party_contest*
 - * *contest_base*
- *election_administration*
 - * *department*
 - *voter_service*
 - *contact_information*
 - * *voter_service*
- *hours*
 - * *time_with_zone*

- *retention_contest*
- *street_segment*
- *candidate_contest*
 - * *contest_base*
- *party*
 - * *html_color_string*
- *internationalized_text*
- *ballot_measure_selection*
 - * *ballot_selection_base*
- *hours_open*
 - * *schedule*
 - *hours*
 - * *time_with_zone*
- *electoral_district*
- *party_selection*
 - * *ballot_selection_base*
- *Enumerations*
 - *identifier_type*
 - *candidate_post_election_status*
 - *candidate_pre_election_status*
 - *voter_service_type*
 - *district_type*
 - *office_term_type*
 - *oeb_enum*
 - *ballot_measure_type*
 - *vote_variation*

Elements

state

The State object includes state-wide election information. The ID attribute is recommended to be the state's FIPS code, along with the prefix "st".

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| election_administration_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the state's election administration object. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| external_identifiers | external_identifiers | Optional | Single | Other identifier for the state that relates to another dataset (e.g. ' OCD-ID '). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of a state, such as Alabama. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| polling_location_ids | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to the state's <i>polling locations</i> . If early vote centers or ballot drop locations are state-wide (e.g., anyone in the state can use them), they can be specified here, but you are encouraged to only use the <i>precinct</i> element. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, election_administration_id, external_identifier_type, external_identifier_othertype,
2 ↪ external_identifier_value, name, polling_location_ids
   st51, ea123, ocd-id, , ocd-division/country:us/state:va, Virginia,

```

term

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| type | office_term_type | Optional | Single | Specifies the type of office term (see <i>office_term_type</i> for valid values). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| start_date | date | Optional | Single | Specifies the start date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_date | date | Optional | Single | Specifies the end date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

office

Office represents the office associated with a contest or district (e.g. Alderman, Mayor, School Board, et al).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| contact_information | single-contact-information | Optional | Repeats | Specifies the contact information for the office and/or individual holding the office. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| description | xs:string | Optional | Single | A brief description of the office and its purpose. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| electoral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>electoral_district</i> element associated with the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| external_identifiers | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link this office to other related datasets (e.g. campaign finance systems, OCD IDs, et al.). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| filing_deadline | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the date and time when a candidate must have filed for the contest for the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_partisan | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the office is partisan. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | The name of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| office_holder_person_ids | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the <i>person</i> element(s) that hold additional information about the current office holder(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| term | single-csv-term | Optional | Single | Defines the term the office can be held. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,electoral_district_id,external_identifier_type,external_identifier_othertype,
↪external_identifier_value,filing_deadline,is_partisan,name,office_holder_person_ids,
↪term_type,term_start_date,term_end_date
2 off001,ed001,,,,,true,Deputy Chief of Staff,per50003,full-term,2002-01-21,
3 off002,ed001,,,,,true,Deputy Deputy Chief of Staff,per50001,unexpired-term,2002-01-
↪21,
4 off003,ed001,,,,,false,General Secretary of Secretaries,per50004,full-term,2002-01-
↪21,

```

term

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|-------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| type | <i>office_term_type</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the type of office term (see <i>office_term_type</i> for valid values). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>Office</code> element containing it. |
| start_date | date | Optional | Single | Specifies the start date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_date | date | Optional | Single | Specifies the end date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

contact_information

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *election_administration*, *office*, *person*, *source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <code>:ref: 'single-csv-hours-open'</code> element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format</i>). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open | xs:string | Optional | Single | References an <i>hours_open</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_long | single-csv-lat-long | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |


```
1 id,address_line_1,address_line_2,address_line_3,directions,email,fax,hours,hours_  
↪open_id,latitude,longitude,latlng_source,name,phone,uri,parent_id  
2 ci0827,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,  
↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,off001  
3 ci0828,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,  
↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,vs01
```

election

The Election object represents an Election Day, which usually consists of many individual contests and/or referenda. A feed must contain **exactly one** Election object. All relationships in the feed (e.g., street segment to precinct to polling location) are assumed to relate only to the Election specified by this object. It is permissible, and recommended, to combine unrelated contests (e.g., a special election and a general election) that occur on the same day into one feed with one Election object.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------|----------|--|--|
| date | xsd:date | Required | Single | Specifies when the election is being held. The <i>Date</i> is considered to be in the timezone local to the state holding the election. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the Election element containing it. |
| election_type | xsd:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the highest controlling authority for election (e.g., federal, state, county, city, town, etc.) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| state_id | xsd:IDREF | Required | Single | Specifies a link to the <i>State</i> element where the election is being held. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the Election element containing it. |
| is_statewide | xsd:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the election is statewide. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to default to “yes”. |
| name | xsd:string | Optional | Single | The name for the election (NB: while optional, this element is highly recommended). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| registration_info | xsd:string | Optional | Single | Specifies information about registration for this election either as text or a URI. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| absentee_ballot_info | xsd:string | Optional | Single | Specifies information about requesting absentee ballots either as text or a URI | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| results_uri | xsd:anyURI | Optional | Single | Contains a URI where results for the election may be found | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| polling_hours | xsd:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that Election Day polling locations are open. If polling hours differ in specific polling locations, alternative hours may be specified in the <i>polling_location</i> object (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref:'single-csv-hours-open' element. It is strongly encouraged</i> | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to |

```

1 id,date,name,election_type,state_id,is_statewide,registration_info,absentee_ballot_
  ↪info,results_uri,polling_hours,has_election_day_registration,registration_deadline,
  ↪absentee_request_deadline,hours_open_id
2 e001,10-08-2016,Best Hot Dog,State,st51,true,www.registrationinfo.com,You can vote_
  ↪absentee,http://hotdogcontest.gov/results,Noon to 3p.m.,true,10/08/2016,,ho002
    
```

ballot_selection_base

A base model for all ballot selection types: *ballot_measure_selection*, *candidate_selection*, and *party_selection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| sequence_order | xs:int | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>ordered_contest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

source

The Source object represents the organization that is publishing the information. This object is the only required object in the feed file, and only one source object is allowed to be present.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------|-------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of the organization that is providing the information. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Source</i> element containing it. |
| vip_id | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the ID of the organization. VIP uses FIPS_ codes for this ID. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Source</i> element containing it. |
| date_time | xs:dateTime | Required | Single | Specifies the date and time of the feed production. The date/time is considered to be in the timezone local to the organization. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| description | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies both the nature of the organization providing the data and what data is in the feed. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| organization_uri | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI to the home page of the organization publishing the data. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| feed_contact_id | xs:string | Optional | Single | Reference to the <i>person</i> who will respond to inquiries about the information contained within the file. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| terms_of_use_uri | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the website where the Terms of Use for the information in this file can be found. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| version | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the version of the data | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```
1 id,date_time,description,name,organization_uri,terms_of_use_uri,vip_id,version
2 source01,2016-06-02T10:24:08,SBE is the official source for Virginia data,"State_
↳Board of Elections, Commonwealth of Virginia",http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/,http://
↳example.com/terms,51,5.1
```

ballot_measure_contest

The `BallotMeasureContest` provides information about a ballot measure before the voters, including summary statements on each side. Extends `single-csv-contest-base`.

| Tag | Data Type | Required | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---|---|
| con_statement | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a statement in opposition to the referendum. It does not necessarily appear on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| effect_of_abstain | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies what effect abstaining (i.e. not voting) on this proposition will have (i.e. whether abstaining is considered a vote against it). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| full_text | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the full text of the referendum as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| info_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI that links to additional information about the referendum. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| passage_threshold | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the threshold of votes that the referendum needs in order to pass. The default is a simple majority (i.e. 50% plus one vote). Other common thresholds are “three-fifths” and “two-thirds”. If there are ‘competing initiatives’ , information about their effect on the passage of the BallotMeasureContest would go here. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| pro_statement | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a statement in favor of the referendum. It does not necessarily appear on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| summary_text | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a short summary of the referendum that is on the ballot, below the title, but above the text. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the particular type of ballot measure. Must be one of the valid <i>ballot_measure_type</i> options. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging a new <i>ballot_measure_type</i> option, when Type is specified as “other.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| 2.1. CSV Specification | | | | | 129 |

```
1 id, abbreviation, Contest, ballot_selection_ids, ballot_sub_title, ballot_title, elecoral_
  ↳ district_id, electorate_specification, external_identifier_type, external_identifier_
  ↳ othertype, external_identifier_value, has_rotation, name, sequence_order, vote_variation,
  ↳ other_vote_variation, con_statement, effect_of_abstain, full_text, info_uri, passage_
  ↳ threshold, pro_statement, summary_text, type, other_type
2 bmc0001, HB2, bs001 bs002 bs003, Raising levy for School Bond, School Bond Issue, ed001,
  ↳ all registered voters, , 54, false, School Bond, 42, majority, , This is no good., No effect,
  ↳ A measure to do raise funds for etc etc, www.ballotmeasure.com, two-thirds, Everything_
  ↳ will be great., It's a referendum about school funding, referendum,
```

contest_base

A base model for all Contest types: *ballot_measure_contest*, *candidate_contest*, *party_contest*, and *retention_contest* (NB: the latter because it extends *ballot_measure_contest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_selection_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>single-csv-ballot-selection-base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_sub_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- toral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <i>electoral_district</i> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- torate_specification | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| ex- ter- nal_identifiers | xs:string | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| has_rotation | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 2.1. CSV Specification | | | | | |
| se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the | If the field is |

contest_base

A base model for all Contest types: *ballot_measure_contest*, *candidate_contest*, *party_contest*, and *retention_contest* (NB: the latter because it extends *ballot_measure_contest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_selection_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>single-csv-ballot-selection-base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_sub_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- toral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <i>electoral_district</i> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- torate_specification | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| ex- ter- nal_identifiers | xs:string | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| has_rotation | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 2.1. CSV Specification | | | | | |
| se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the | If the field is |

time_with_zone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

`(([01] [0-9] | 2 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] : [0-5] [0-9] | (24:00:00)) (Z | [+ -] ((0 [0-9] | 1 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] | 14`

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
5       <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6     </Hours>
7     <Hours>
8       <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9       <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10    </Hours>
11    <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12    <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13  </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>

```

language_string

LanguageString extends xs:string and can contain text from any language. LanguageString has one required attribute, language, that must contain the 2-character language code for the type of language LanguageString contains.

```

1 <BallotTitle>
2   <Text language="en">Retention of Supreme Court Justice</Text>
3   <Text language="es">La retención de juez de la Corte Suprema</Text>
4 </BallotTitle>

```

ballot_style

A container for the contests/asures on the ballot.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|---|---|
| image_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI that returns an image of the sample ballot. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ordered_contests_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | Reference to a set of <i>ordered_contest</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| party_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | Reference to a set of :ref:'single-csv-party's. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, image_uri, ordered_contest_ids, party_ids
2 bs00010, http://i.giphy.com/26BoCh3PgT8ai45ji.gif, oc2025, par02
3 bs00011, http://i.giphy.com/3oEjHYDWEICgEpAOjK.gif, oc3000 oc2025, par01

```

external_identifier

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------|-------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| type | identifier | Required | Single | Specifies the type of identifier. Must be one of the valid types as defined by <i>identifier_type</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ElectionIdentifier</code> containing it. |
| other | type string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging an <code>ExternalIdentifier</code> type that falls outside the options listed in <i>identifier_type</i> . Type should be set to “other” when using this field. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| value | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the identifier. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ElectionIdentifier</code> containing it. |

person

Person defines information about a person. The person may be a candidate, election administrator, or elected official. These elements reference Person:

- *candidate*
- *election_administration*
- *office*

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| contact_information | single-contact-information | Optional | Repeats | Specifies contact information for the person. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| date_of_birth | date | Optional | Single | Represents the individual's date of birth. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| external_identifiers | <i>external_identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Identifiers for this person. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| first_names | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's first name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| full_names | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's full name (NB: this information is <i>internationalized_text</i> because it sometimes appears on ballots in multiple languages). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| gender | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's gender. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| last_names | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's last name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| middle_name | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | Represents any number of names between an individual's first and last names (e.g. John Ronald Reuel Tolkien). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| nickname | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's nickname. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| party_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Refers to the associated <i>party</i> . This information is intended to be used by feed consumers to help them disambiguate the person's identity, but not to be presented as part of any ballot information. For that see <i>candidate PartyId</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| prefix | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a prefix associated with a person (e.g. Dr.). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| profession | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's profession (NB: this information is <i>internationalized_text</i> because it sometimes appears on ballots in multiple languages). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| suffix | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a suffix associated with a person (e.g. Jr.). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```
1 id,date_of_birth,first_name,gender,last_name,middle_name,nickname,party_id,prefix,  
  ↪profession,suffix,title  
2 per50001,1961-08-04,Barack,male,Obama,Hussein,,par02,,President,II,Mr. President  
3 per50002,1985-11-21,Carly,female,Jepsen,Rae,,par01,,Recording Artist,,  
4 per50003,1926-09-23,John,male,Coltrane,William,Trane,par02,,Recording Artist,Saint,  
5 per50004,1926-05-26,Miles,male,Davis,Dewey,,par01,,Recording Artist,III,
```

contact_information

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *election_administration*, *office*, *person*, *source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <code>:ref: 'single-csv-hours-open'</code> element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format</i>). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open | xs:string | Optional | Single | References an <i>hours_open</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_long | single-csv-lat-long | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,address_line_1,address_line_2,address_line_3,directions,email,fax,hours,hours_
  ↳open_id,latitude,longitude,latlng_source,name,phone,uri,parent_id
2 ci0827,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↳,,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,off001
3 ci0828,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↳,,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,vs01

```

external_identifiers

The `ExternalIdentifiers` element allows VIP data to connect with external datasets (e.g. candidates with campaign finance datasets, electoral geographies with `OCD-IDs` that allow for greater connectivity with additional datasets, etc...). Examples for `ExternalIdentifiers` can be found on the objects that support them:

- *candidate*
- Any element that extends `single-csv-contest-base`
- *electoral_district*
- *locality*
- *office*
- *party*
- *precinct*
- *state*

| Tag | Data Type | Required | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| <code>external_identifier</code> | <i>external_identifier</i> | Required | Repeats | Defines the identifier and the type of identifier it is (see 'ExternalIdentifier' for complete information). | At least one valid 'ExternalIdentifier' must be present for <code>ExternalIdentifiers</code> to be valid. If no valid 'ExternalIdentifier' is present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ExternalIdentifiers</code> element. |

voter_service

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|--|---|
| con-tact_infor-mation | single-csv-contact-information | Op-tional | Sin-gle | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| descrip-tion | xs:string | Op-tional | Sin-gle | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| elec-tion_official | xs:IDREF person_id | Op-tional | Sin-gle | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | <i>voter_service</i> | Op-tional | Sin-gle | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Op-tional | Sin-gle | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,description,election_official_person_id,type,other_type,department_id
2 vs01,A service we provide,per50002,other,overseas-voting,dep01
3 vs00,Elections notifications,per50002,other,voter-registration,dep02
4 vs02,Pencil sharpening,per50002,other,office-help,dep03
5 vs03,Guided hike to polling place,per50002,other,polling-places,dep03
6 vs04,Bike messenger ballot delivery,per50002,other,absentee-ballots,dep03

```

contact_information

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. ContactInformation is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *election_administration*, *office*, *person*, *source*). ContactInformation has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref: 'single-csv-hours-open' element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format.</i>) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open | xs:string | Optional | Single | References an <i>hours_open</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_long | single-csv-lat-long | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, address_line_1, address_line_2, address_line_3, directions, email, fax, hours, hours_
  ↳ open_id, latitude, longitude, latlng_source, name, phone, uri, parent_id
2 ci0827, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, , , josh@example.com, , Early to very late, ,
  ↳ , , , Josh Lyman, 555-111-2222, http://lemonlyman.example.com, off001
3 ci0828, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, , , josh@example.com, , Early to very late, ,
  ↳ , , , Josh Lyman, 555-111-2222, http://lemonlyman.example.com, vs01

```

candidate_selection

CandidateSelection extends single-csv-ballot-selection-base and represents a ballot selection for a candidate contest.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| candidate_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>candidate</i> elements. The number of candidates that can be references is unbounded in cases where the ballot selection is for a ticket (e.g. “President/Vice President”, “Governor/Lt Governor”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| endorsement_party_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>party</i> elements, which signifies one or more endorsing parties for the candidate(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_write_in | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Signifies if the particular ballot selection allows for write-in candidates. If true, one or more write-in candidates are allowed for this contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, sequence_order, candidate_ids, endorsement_party_ids, is_write_in
2 cs001, 3, can004, par01, false
3 cs002, 2, can001 can002, par03 par02, false
4 cs003, 1, can003, par02 par03, true

```

ballot_selection_base

A base model for all ballot selection types: *ballot_measure_selection*, *candidate_selection*, and *party_selection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| sequence_order | xs:integer | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>ordered_contest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

lat_long

The latitude and longitude of a polling location in ‘WGS 84’_ format. Both latitude and longitude values are measured in decimal degrees.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|--|---|
| lati-tude | xs:double | Re-quired | Single | The latitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lon-gi-tude | xs:double | Re-quired | Single | The longitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| latlng_source | string | Optional | Single | The system used to perform the lookup from location name to lat/lng. For example, this could be the name of a geocoding service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

candidate

The Candidate object represents a candidate in a contest. If a candidate is running in multiple contests, each contest **must** have its own Candidate object. Candidate objects may **not** be reused between Contests.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| ballot_name | xs:string | Required | Single | The candidate's name as it will be displayed on the official ballot (e.g. "Ken T. Cuccinelli II"). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the Candidate element containing it. |
| contact_information | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for this Candidate and/or their campaign (see single-csv-contact-information). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| external_identifiers | <i>external_identifier</i> | Optional | Single | Another identifier for a candidate that links to another source of information (e.g. a campaign committee ID that links to a campaign finance system). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| file_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Date when the candidate filed for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_incumbent | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the candidate is the incumbent for the office associated with the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_top_ticket | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the candidate is the top of a ticket that includes multiple candidates. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| party_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to a <i>party</i> element with additional information about the candidate's affiliated party. This is the party affiliation that is intended to be presented as part of ballot information. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| person_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to a <i>person</i> element with additional information about the candidate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| post_election_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Final status of the candidate (e.g. winner, withdrawn, etc...). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| pre_election_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Registration status of the candidate (e.g. filed, qualified, etc...). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,ballot_name,external_identifier_type,external_identifier_othertype,external_
2 ↪identifier_value,file_date,is_incumbent,is_top_ticket,party_id,person_id,post_
3 ↪election_status,pre_election_status
4 can001,Jude Fawley,,,,,2016-12-01,true,false,par01,per50001,,filed
5 can002,Arabella Donn,,,,,2016-12-01,false,false,par02,per50002,,qualified
can003,John Coltrane,,,,,2016-09-23,false,false,par02,per50003,,qualified
can004,Miles Davis,,,,,2016-05-26,false,false,par01,per50004,,qualified

```

polling_location

The PollingLocation object represents a site where voters cast or drop off ballots.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Required | Repeats | Represents the various parts of an address to a polling location. For CSV implementations, repeating address_line columns should be incremented, e.g. address_line1, address_line2, address_line3. | At least one valid AddressLine must be present for PollingLocation to be valid. If no valid AddressLine is present, the implementation is required to ignore the PollingLocation element containing it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating the polling location. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the polling location is open (NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <i>hours_open</i> element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open_id | xs:string | Optional | Single | Links to an <i>hours_open</i> element, which is a schedule of dates and hours during which the polling location is available. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_drop_box | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates if this polling location is a drop box. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_early_voting | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates if this polling location is an early vote site. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_lng | single-csv-lat-lng | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this polling location. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Name of the polling location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| photo_uri | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains a link to an image of the polling location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,name,address_line,directions,hours,photo_uri,hours_open_id,is_drop_box,is_early_
↪voting,latitude,longitude,latlng_source
2 poll001,ALBERMARLE HIGH SCHOOL,"2775 Hydraulic Rd Charlottesville, VA 22901,Use_
↪back door,7am-8pm,www.picture.com,ho001,false,true,38.0754627,78.5014875,Google Maps
3 poll002,Public Library, Main St Denver,next to the checkout counter,7am-8pm,www.
↪picture.com,,false,true,38.0754627,78.5014875,Google Maps
4 poll003,Historic Society,,wheelchair entrance,7am-8pm,www.picture.com,,false,true,,,
5 poll004,Community Center,,behind the big oak tree,7am-8pm,www.picture.com,,false,
↪true,,,

```

lat_lng

The latitude and longitude of a polling location in ‘WGS 84’_format. Both latitude and longitude values are measured in decimal degrees.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| latitude | xs:double | Required | Single | The latitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| longitude | xs:double | Required | Single | The longitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| latlng_source | xs:string | Optional | Single | The system used to perform the lookup from location name to lat/lng. For example, this could be the name of a geocoding service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

locality

The Locality object represents the jurisdiction below the *state* (e.g. county).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| election_administration_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the locality's <i>election_administration</i> object. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| external_identifier | xs:string | Optional | Single | Another identifier for a locality that links to another dataset (e.g. 'OCD-ID') | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of a locality. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the Locality element containing it. |
| polling_location_ids | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to a set of the locality's :ref:'polling locations <single-csv-polling-location>'s. If early vote centers or ballot drop locations are locality-wide, they should be specified here. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore it. However, the implementation should still check to see if there are any polling locations associated with this locality's state. |
| state_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References the locality's <i>state</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the Locality element containing it. |
| type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Defines the kind of locality (e.g. county, town, et al.), which is one of the various <i>DistrictType enumerations</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for defining a type of locality that falls outside the options listed in <i>DistrictType</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, election_administration_id, external_identifier_type, external_identifier_othertype,
  ↪ external_identifier_value, name, polling_location_ids, state_id, type, other_type
2 loc001, ea123, ocd-id, , ocd-division/country:us/state:co/county:denver, Locality #1,
  ↪ poll1001 poll1002, st51, city,
3 loc002, ea345, , , , Locality #2, , st51, other, unique type
    
```

department

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| contact_information | single-contact-information | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for the election administration body (see single-csv-contact-information). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| election_official_person_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The individual to contact at the election administration office. The specified person should be the <i>election official</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| voter_services | single-csv-voter-service | Optional | Repeats | The types of services and appropriate contact individual available to voters. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, election_official_person_id, election_administration_id
2 dep01, per50002, ea123
3 dep02, per50002, ea345
4 dep03, per50002, ea625
5 dep04, per50002, ea625

```

voter_service

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| contact_information | single-csv-contact-information | Optional | Single | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| description | xs:string | Optional | Single | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| election_official_person_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | <i>voter_service</i> | Optional | Single | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, description, election_official_person_id, type, other_type, department_id
2 vs01, A service we provide, per50002, other, overseas-voting, dep01
3 vs00, Elections notifications, per50002, other, voter-registration, dep02
4 vs02, Pencil sharpening, per50002, other, office-help, dep03
5 vs03, Guided hike to polling place, per50002, other, polling-places, dep03
6 vs04, Bike messenger ballot delivery, per50002, other, absentee-ballots, dep03

```

contact_information

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *election_administration*, *office*, *person*, *source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref: ‘single-csv-hours-open’ element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format.</i>) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open | xs:string | Optional | Single | References an <i>hours_open</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_long | single-csv-lat-long | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,address_line_1,address_line_2,address_line_3,directions,email,fax,hours,hours_
  ↪open_id,latitude,longitude,latlng_source,name,phone,uri,parent_id
2 ci0827,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,off001
3 ci0828,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,vs01
    
```

html_color_string

A restricted string pattern for a six-character hex code representing an HTML color string. The pattern is:

```
[0-9a-f]{6}
```

schedule

A sub-portion of the schedule. This describes a range of days, along with one or more set of open and close times for those days, as well as the options describing whether or not appointments are necessary or possible.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| hours | single-csv-hours | Optional | Repeats | Blocks of hours in the date range in which the place is open. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_only_by_appointment | boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is only open during the specified time window with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_or_by_appointment | boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is open during the hours specified time window and may also be open with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_subject_to_change | boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place should be open during the specified time window, but may be subject to change. People should contact prior to arrival to confirm hours are still accurate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| start_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options begin. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options end. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,start_time,end_time,is_only_by_appointment,is_or_by_appointment,is_subject_to_
  ↪change,start_date,end_date,hours_open_id
2 sch001,07:00:00-06:00,22:00:00-06:00,,true,,2016-10-10,2016-10-12,ho001
3 sch002,09:00:00-06:00,20:00:00-06:00,true,,,2016-10-13,2016-10-15,ho001
4 sch003,08:00:00-06:00,14:00:00-06:00,,,true,2016-10-10,2016-10-15,ho002
    
```

hours

The open and close time for this place. All times must be fully specified, including a timezone offset from UTC.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| start_time | single-csv-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place opens. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_time | single-csv-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place closes. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

time_with_zone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

(([01] [0-9] | 2 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] : [0-5] [0-9] | (24:00:00)) (Z | [+ -] ((0 [0-9] | 1 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] | 14

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
5       <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6     </Hours>
7     <Hours>
8       <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9       <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10    </Hours>
11    <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12    <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13  </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>

```

precinct

The Precinct object represents a precinct, which is contained within a Locality. While the id attribute does not have to be static across feeds for one election, the combination of *Source.VipId*, *Locality.Name*, *Precinct.Ward*, *Precinct.Name*, and *Precinct.Number* should remain constant across feeds for one election (NB: not all of the fields just mentioned are required – omitting those non-required fields is fine).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| ballot_style_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the <i>ballot_style</i> , which a person who lives in this precinct will vote. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| electoral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the :ref:*single-csv-electoral-district*s (e.g., congressional district, state house district, school board district) to which the entire precinct/precinct split belongs. Highly Recommended if candidate information is to be provided. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| external_identifiers | xs:string | Optional | Single | Other identifier for the precinct that relates to another dataset (e.g. OCD-ID _). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_mail_only | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Determines if the precinct runs mail-only elections. | If the field is missing or invalid, the implementation is required to assume <i>IsMailOnly</i> is false. |
| locality_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>locality</i> that comprises the precinct. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the precinct element containing it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the precinct's name (or number if no name exists). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the precinct element containing it. |
| number | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the precinct's number (e.g., 32 or 32A – alpha characters are legal). Should be used if the <i>Name</i> field is populated by a name and not a number. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| polling_location_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to the precinct's <i>polling_location</i> object(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| precinct_split_name | xs:string | Optional | Single | If this field is empty, then this <i>Precinct</i> object represents a full precinct. If this field is present, then this <i>Precinct</i> object represents one portion of a split precinct. Each <i>Precinct</i> object that represents one portion of a split precinct must have the same <i>Name</i> value, but different <i>PrecinctSplitName</i> values. See the <i>sample_feed.xml</i> file for examples. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ward | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the ward the precinct is contained within. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,ballot_style_id,electoral_district_ids,external_identifier_type,external_
  ↳ identifier_othertype,external_identifier_value,is_mail_only,locality_id,name,number,
  ↳ polling_location_ids,precinct_split_name,ward
2 pre90111,bs00010,ed001,ocd-id,,ocd-division/country:us,false,loc001,203 - GEORGETOWN,
  ↳ 0203,poll001 poll002,split13,5
3 pre90112,bs00011,ed002,fips,,42,false,loc001,203 - GEORGETOWN,0203,poll003,split26,6
4 pre90113,bs00010,ed003,,,,false,loc002,203 - GEORGETOWN,0203,poll004,split54,7
  
```

ordered_contest

OrderedContest encapsulates links to the information that comprises a contest and potential ballot selections. OrderedContest elements can be collected within a *ballot_style* to accurately depict exactly what will show up on a particular ballot in the proper order.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| contest_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to elements that extend single-csv-contest-base. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the OrderedContest element containing it. |
| ordered_ballot_selection_ids | IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to elements that extend single-csv-ballot-selection-base. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore it. If an OrderedBallotSelectionIds element is not present, the presumed order of the selection will be the order of single-csv-ballot-selection-base-extended elements referenced by the underlying single-csv-contest-base-extended elements. |

```

1 id,contest_id,ordered_ballot_selection_ids
2 oc2025,con001,bs001 bs002 bs003
3 oc3000,con002,bs001
  
```

party_contest

An extension of single-csv-contest-base which describes a contest in which the possible ballot selections are of type *party_selection*. These could include contests in which straight-party selections are allowed, or party-list contests (although these are more common outside of the United States).

```

1 id,abbreviation,ballot_selection_ids,ballot_sub_title,ballot_title,electoral_
  ↳ district_id,electorate_specification,external_identifier_type,external_identifier_
  ↳ othertype,external_identifier_value,has_rotation,name,sequence_order,vote_variation,
  ↳ other_vote_variation
2 pcon001,PC1071,bs001 bs002,,Party Election,ed001,all registered voters,,,,false,
  ↳ Straight Party Vote,3,,
  
```

contest_base

A base model for all Contest types: *ballot_measure_contest*, *candidate_contest*, *party_contest*, and *retention_contest* (NB: the latter because it extends *ballot_measure_contest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_selection_id | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>single-csv-ballot-selection-base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_sub_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- toral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <i>electoral_district</i> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- torate_specification | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| ex- ter- nal_identifiers | xs:string | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| has_rotation | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
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| se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the | If the field is |

election_administration

The Election Administration represents an institution for serving a locality's (or state's) election functions.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------|--|---|
| absentee_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies the web address for information on absentee voting. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| am_i_registered | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Specifies the web address for information on whether an individual is registered. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| department | single-csv-department | Required | Repeats | Describes the administrative body for a particular voter service. | There must be at least one valid <i>Department</i> in each <i>ElectionAdministration</i> element. If no valid <i>Department</i> objects are present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>ElectionAdministration</i> object that contains it/them. |
| elections_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address the administration's website. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| registration_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address for information on registering to vote. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| rules_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI for the election rules and laws (if any) for the jurisdiction of the administration. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| what_is_on_my_ballot | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address for information on what is on an individual's ballot. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| where_do_i_vote | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | The Specifies web address for information on where an individual votes based on their address. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | id,absentee_uri,am_i_registered_uri,elections_uri,registration_uri,rules_uri,what_is_ |
| 2 | ↪on_my_ballot_uri,where_do_i_vote_uri |
| 3 | ea123,https://example.com/absentee,https://example.com/am-i-registered,https:// |
| 4 | ↪example.com/elections,https://example.com/registration,https://example.com/rules, |
| | ↪https://example.com/what-is-on-my-ballot,https://example.com/where-do-i-vote |
| | ea345,https://example.com/absentee2,https://example.com/am-i-registered2,https:// |
| | ↪example.com/elections2,https://example.com/registration2,https://example.com/rules2, |
| | ↪https://example.com/what-is-on-my-ballot2,https://example.com/where-do-i-vote2 |
| | ea625,https://example.com/absentee3,https://example.com/am-i-registered3,https:// |
| | ↪example.com/elections3,https://example.com/registration3,https://example.com/rules3, |
| | ↪https://example.com/what-is-on-my-ballot3,https://example.com/where-do-i-vote3 |

department

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| contact_information | single-contact-information | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for the election administration body (see single-csv-contact-information). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| election_official_person_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The individual to contact at the election administration office. The specified person should be the <i>election official</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| voter_services | single-csv-voter-service | Optional | Repeats | The types of services and appropriate contact individual available to voters. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, election_official_person_id, election_administration_id
2 dep01, per50002, ea123
3 dep02, per50002, ea345
4 dep03, per50002, ea625
5 dep04, per50002, ea625

```

voter_service

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| contact_information | single-csv-contact-information | Optional | Single | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| description | xs:string | Optional | Single | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| election_official_person_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | <i>voter_service</i> | Optional | Single | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, description, election_official_person_id, type, other_type, department_id
2 vs01, A service we provide, per50002, other, overseas-voting, dep01
3 vs00, Elections notifications, per50002, other, voter-registration, dep02
4 vs02, Pencil sharpening, per50002, other, office-help, dep03
5 vs03, Guided hike to polling place, per50002, other, polling-places, dep03
6 vs04, Bike messenger ballot delivery, per50002, other, absentee-ballots, dep03

```


contact_information

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. ContactInformation is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *election_administration*, *office*, *person*, *source*). ContactInformation has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <code>:ref: 'single-csv-hours-open' element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format.</code></i> | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open | xs:string | Optional | Single | References an <i>hours_open</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_long | single-csv-lat-long | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,address_line_1,address_line_2,address_line_3,directions,email,fax,hours,hours_
  ↪open_id,latitude,longitude,latlng_source,name,phone,uri,parent_id
2 ci0827,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,off001
3 ci0828,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,vs01

```

voter_service

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|--|---|
| contact_information | single-csv-contact-information | Optional | Single | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| description | xs:string | Optional | Single | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| election_official_person_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | voter_service_type | Optional | Single | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,description,election_official_person_id,type,other_type,department_id
2 vs01,A service we provide,per50002,other,overseas-voting,dep01
3 vs00,Elections notifications,per50002,other,voter-registration,dep02
4 vs02,Pencil sharpening,per50002,other,office-help,dep03
5 vs03,Guided hike to polling place,per50002,other,polling-places,dep03
6 vs04,Bike messenger ballot delivery,per50002,other,absentee-ballots,dep03

```

hours

The open and close time for this place. All times must be fully specified, including a timezone offset from UTC.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| start_time | single-csv-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place opens. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_time | single-csv-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place closes. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

time_with_zone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

`(([01] [0-9] | 2 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] : [0-5] [0-9] | (24 : 00 : 00)) (Z | [+-] ((0 [0-9] | 1 [0-3]) : [0-5] [0-9] | 14`

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
5       <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6     </Hours>
7     <Hours>
8       <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9       <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10    </Hours>
11    <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12    <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13  </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>

```

retention_contest

RetentionContest extends *ballot_measure_contest* and represents a contest where a candidate is retained in a position (e.g. a judge).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| can-di-date_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>candidate</i> being retained. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the RetentionContest element containing it. |
| of-vice_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the information about the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

street_segment

A Street Segment objection represents a portion of a street and the links to the precinct that this geography (i.e., segment) is contained within. The start address house number must be less than the end address house number unless the segment consists of only one address, in which case these values are equal.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|--|
| address_direction | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the (inter-)cardinal direction of the entire address. An example is “NE” for the address “100 E Capitol St NE.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| city | xs:string | Required | Single | The city specifies the city or town of the address. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| includes_all_addresses | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Specifies if the segment covers every address on this street. If this is <i>true</i> , then the values of StartHouseNumber and EndHouseNumber should be ignored. The value of OddEvenBoth must be <i>both</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| includes_all_streets | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Specifies if the segment covers every street in this city. If this is <i>true</i> , then the values of OddEvenBoth , StartHouseNumber , EndHouseNumber , StreetName , and Zip should be ignored. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| odd_even_both | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies whether the odd side of the street (in terms of house numbers), the even side, or both are included in the street segment. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment containing it. |
| precinct_id | IDREF | Optional | Single | References the <i>precinct</i> that contains the entire street segment. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. |
| start_house_number | integer | Optional | Single | The house number at which the street segment starts. This value is necessary for the street segment to make any sense. Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value must be less than or equal to EndHouseNumber . If IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value is ignored. | Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, if the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. If the StartHouseNumber is greater than the EndHouseNumber , the implementation should ignore the element containing them. |
| end_house_number | integer | Optional | Single | The house number at which the street segment ends. This value is necessary for the street segment to make any sense. Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, it must be greater than or equal to StartHouseNumber . If IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value is ignored. | Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, if the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. If the EndHouseNumber is less than the StartHouseNumber , the implementation should ignore the element containing it. |
| state | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the two-letter state abbreviation of the address. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| street_direction | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the (inter-)cardinal direction of the street address (e.g., the “E” in “100 E Capitol St NE”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| street_name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents the name of the street for the address. A special wildcard, “*”, denotes every street in the given city/town. It optionally may contain street direction, street suffix or address direction (e.g., both “Capitol” and “E Capitol St NE” are acceptable for the address “100 E Capitol St NE”), however this is not preferred. Preferred is street name alone (e.g. “Capitol”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
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| street_suffix | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents the abbreviated, non-directional suffix to the street name. An example is “St” for the address “100 E Capitol St NE.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, address_direction, city, includes_all_addresses, includes_all_streets, odd_even_both,
  ↪ precinct_id, start_house_number, end_house_number, state, street_direction, street_name,
  ↪ street_suffix, unit_number, zip
2 ss000001, N, Washington, false, false, odd, pre90113, 101, 199, DC, NW, Delaware, St, , 20001
3 ss000002, S, Washington, true, false, both, pre90112, , , DC, SE, Wisconsin, Ave, , 20002
    
```

candidate_contest

CandidateContest extends single-csv-contest-base and represents a contest among candidates.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| number_elected | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Number of candidates that are elected in the contest (i.e. “N” of N-of-M). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| office_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>office</i> elements, if available, which give additional information about the offices. Note: the order of the office IDs must be in the same order as the candidates listed in <i>BallotSelectionIds</i> . E.g., if the various <i>BallotSelectionIds</i> reference <i>candidate_selection</i> elements which reference the candidate for President first and Vice-President second, the <i>OfficeIds</i> should reference the office of President first and the office of Vice-President second. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| primary_party_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References <i>party</i> elements, if the contest is related to a particular party. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| votes_allowed | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Maximum number of votes/write-ins per voter in this contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, abbreviation, ballot_selection_ids, ballot_sub_title, ballot_title, electoral_
  ↪ district_id, electorate_specification, external_identifier_type, external_identifier_
  ↪ othertype, external_identifier_value, has_rotation, name, sequence_order, vote_variation,
  ↪ other_vote_variation, number_elected, office_ids, primary_party_ids, votes_allowed
2 cancon001, SE-1, bs001 bs002, , Governor of Virginia, ed001, all registered voters, fips, ,
  ↪ 49, true, Governor, 1, , , 1, off001, par01, 1
    
```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```
3  cancon002,SE-2,bs003 bs004,,Lieutenant Governor of Virginia,ed001,all registered_  
↪voters,fips,,49,true,Lt Governor,2,,,1,off002,par01,1
```

contest_base

A base model for all Contest types: *ballot_measure_contest*, *candidate_contest*, *party_contest*, and *retention_contest* (NB: the latter because it extends *ballot_measure_contest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_selection_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>single-csv-ballot-selection-base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_sub_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- toral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <i>electoral_district</i> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- torate_specification | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| ex- ter- nal_identifiers | xs:string | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| has_rotations | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
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| se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the | If the field is |

party

This element describes a political party and the metadata associated with them. These can also include “dummy” parties to indicate a type of contest (e.g., a Voter Nominated *candidate_contest* can use the **PrimaryPartyIds** field and a dummy Party object to indicate that the contest is a “Top-Two” primary).

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-quired? Seats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------|-------------------|--|---|
| ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Op- tional | Sin- gle | An abbreviation for the party name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| color | single- csv- html- color- string | Op- tional | Sin- gle | The preferred display color for the party, for use in maps and other displays. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ex- ter- nal_ide ntifiers | <i>exter- nal_ide ntifier</i> type | Op- tional | Sin- gle | Other identifiers that link this party to other related data sets (e.g. a campaign finance system, etc). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_wri te_in | boolean | Op- tional | Sin- gle | Signals if this political party is one that is officially recognized by a local, state, or federal organization, or is a “write-in” in jurisdictions which allow candidates to free-form enter their political affiliation. If this field is not present then it is assumed to be false. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| logo_ur l | anyURI | Op- tional | Sin- gle | Web address of a logo to use in displays. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Op- tional | Sin- gle | The name of the party. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,abbreviation,color,external_identifier_type,external_identifier_othertype,
  ↪external_identifier_value,logo_uri,name
2 par01,REP,ff0000,,,,http://example.com/elephant.png,Republican
3 par02,DEM,0000ff,,,,http://example.com/donkey.png,Democrat
4 par03,GRN,efefef,,,,http://example.com/tree.png,Green
5 par04,WFP,ee99aa,,,,http://example.com/worker.png,Working Families Party

```

html_color_string

A restricted string pattern for a six-character hex code representing an HTML color string. The pattern is:

```
[0-9a-f]{6}
```

internationalized_text

InternationalizedText allows for support of multiple languages for a string. InternationalizedText has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID). Examples of InternationalizedText can be seen in:

- Any element that extends `single-csv-contest-base`
- Any element that extends `single-csv-ballot-selection-base`
- *candidate*
- `single-csv-contact-information`
- *election*
- *election_administration*
- *office*
- *party*
- *person*
- *polling_location*
- *source*

NOTE: InternationalizedText is not currently supported for VIP feeds in the CSV format.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| text | xs:string | Required | Repeats | Contains the translations of a particular string of text. | At least one valid Text must be present for InternationalizedText to be valid. If no valid Text is present, the implementation is required to ignore the InternationalizedText element. |

ballot_measure_selection

Represents the possible selection (e.g. yes/no, recall/do not recall, et al) for a *ballot_measure_contest* that would appear on the ballot. BallotMeasureSelection extends `single-csv-ballot-selection-base`.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|--|
| selection | xs:string | Required | Single | Selection text for a <i>ballot_measure_contest</i> | If the element is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the BallotMeasureSelection containing it. |

```

1 id,sequence_order,selection
2 bms001,1,Proposition A
3 bms002,2,Proposition B
    
```

ballot_selection_base

A base model for all ballot selection types: *ballot_measure_selection*, *candidate_selection*, and *party_selection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|------------|-----------|---|---|
| sequence_order | xs:int | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSelectionIds</i> in <i>ordered_contest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

hours_open

A structured way of describing the days and hours that a place such as a *office* or *polling_location* is open, or that an event such as an *election* is happening. The range of days indicated by the *StartDate* and *EndDate* in each **'Schedule'_** element should not overlap with peer **'Schedule'_** elements. For example, it is invalid to specify a schedule from 10/01/2016 to 10/31/2016 and also specify a schedule from 10/10/2016 to 10/11/2016 within the same *HoursOpen* element.

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|--|---|
| schedule | single-csv-schedule | Required | Re-peats | Defines a block of days and hours that a place will be open. | At least one valid 'Schedule'_ must be present for <i>HoursOpen</i> to be valid. If no valid 'Schedule'_ is present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>HoursOpen</i> element. |

schedule

A sub-portion of the schedule. This describes a range of days, along with one or more set of open and close times for those days, as well as the options describing whether or not appointments are necessary or possible.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| hours | single-csv-hours | Optional | Repeats | Blocks of hours in the date range in which the place is open. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_only_by_appointment | boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is only open during the specified time window with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_or_by_appointment | boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is open during the hours specified time window and may also be open with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_subject_to_change | boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place should be open during the specified time window, but may be subject to change. People should contact prior to arrival to confirm hours are still accurate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| start_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options begin. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options end. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,start_time,end_time,is_only_by_appointment,is_or_by_appointment,is_subject_to_
  ↪change,start_date,end_date,hours_open_id
2 sch001,07:00:00-06:00,22:00:00-06:00,,true,,2016-10-10,2016-10-12,ho001
3 sch002,09:00:00-06:00,20:00:00-06:00,true,,,2016-10-13,2016-10-15,ho001
4 sch003,08:00:00-06:00,14:00:00-06:00,,,true,2016-10-10,2016-10-15,ho002
    
```

hours

The open and close time for this place. All times must be fully specified, including a timezone offset from UTC.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| start_time | single-csv-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place opens. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_time | single-csv-time-with-zone | Optional | Single | The time at which this place closes. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

time_with_zone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

(([01][0-9]|2[0-3]):[0-5][0-9]:[0-5][0-9]|(24:00:00))(Z|+|-(0[0-9]|1[0-3]):[0-5][0-9]|14

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
5       <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6     </Hours>
7     <Hours>
8       <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9       <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10    </Hours>
11    <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12    <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13  </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>

```

electoral_district

The ElectoralDistrict object represents the geographic area in which contests are held. Examples of ElectoralDistrict include: “the state of Maryland”, “Virginia’s 5th Congressional District”, or “Union School District”. The geographic area that comprises a ElectoralDistrict is defined by which precincts link to the ElectoralDistrict.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------|---|---|
| external_identifier | external_identifier | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link to external datasets (e.g. OCD-IDs) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the electoral area’s name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the ElectoralDistrict object containing it. |
| number | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Specifies the district number of the district (e.g. 34, in the case of the 34th State Senate District). If a number is not applicable, instead of leaving the field blank, leave this field out of the object; empty strings are not valid for xs:integer fields. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | district_type | Required | Single | Specifies the type of electoral area. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the ElectoralDistrict object containing it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging a new <i>district_type</i> option when Type is specified as “other”. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,external_identifier_type,external_identifier_othertype,external_identifier_value,
2 ↪name,number,type,other_type
3 ed001,ocd-id,,ocd-division/country:us/state:ny/borough:brooklyn,Brooklyn,1,borough,
ed002,other,community-board,4,CB 4,2,other,community-board

```

party_selection

This element extends `single-csv-ballot-selection-base` to support contests in which the selections can be groups of one or more parties.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| party_ids | IDREFS | Required | Single | One or more <i>party</i> IDs which collectively represent a ballot selection. | If one or more parties referenced are invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>PartySelection</code> containing it. |

```

1 id,sequence_order,party_ids
2 ps001,1,par01 par04
3 ps002,2,par02
4 ps003,3,par03

```

ballot_selection_base

A base model for all ballot selection types: *ballot_measure_selection*, *candidate_selection*, and *party_selection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| sequence_order | xs:int | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSelectionIds</i> in <i>ordered_contest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

Enumerations

identifier_type

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| fips | Federal Information Processing Standards codes for states_ , counties_ , and cities_ . |
| local-level | An identifier generated or used by local governments or organizations. |
| national-level | An identifier generated or used by national organizations. |
| ocd-id | An 'Open Civic Data Division Identifier' . |
| state-level | An identifier generated or used by state governments or organizations. |
| other | Any identifier which doesn't fall into any of the above categories. |

candidate_post_election_status

| Tag | Description |
|--------------------|--|
| advanced-to-runoff | For contests in which the top <i>N</i> candidates advance to the next round. |
| projected-winner | A candidate is expected to win, but official results are not yet complete. |
| winner | The candidate has officially won. |
| withdrawn | The candidate has withdrawn from the contest. |

candidate_pre_election_status

| Tag | Description |
|-----------|--|
| filed | The candidate has filed for office but not yet been qualified. |
| qualified | The candidate has qualified for the contest. |
| withdrawn | The candidate has withdrawn from the contest (but may still be on the ballot). |
| write-in | |

voter_service_type

| Tag | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| absentee-ballots | This department handles the dispatch, tracking, and return of absentee ballots. |
| overseas-voting | The department for overseas, military, and other outside-the-U.S. voters. |
| polling-places | This department handles the selection and management of polling places. |
| voter-registration | The department that manages voter registration. |
| other | Any other service not covered by the above descriptions. |

district_type

Enumeration describing the set of possible jurisdiction and district types. Please use the enumeration value which most accurately reflects the type of district or jurisdiction in your state or county. For example, “town” and “township” may mean different things – or not be defined at all – in your state, so please use the definition which best matches your local meaning.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| borough | A borough |
| city | A city. |
| city-council | A specific seat/jurisdiction for a city, town, or village council. |
| congressional | A United States congressional district. |
| county | A county. |
| county-council | A county council district, either in its entirety or for a specific seat. |
| judicial | A judicial district. |
| municipality | A civil division which is not a town, city, village, or county. |
| national | The United States. |
| school | A school district. |
| special | A ‘special-purpose district’ that exist separate from general-purpose districts. |
| state | A state, district, commonwealth, or U.S. territory. |
| state-house | The lower house of a state legislature. |
| state-senate | The upper house of a state legislature. |
| town | A town . |
| township | A township, which may be different than a town. See the ‘Wikipedia article’ . |
| utility | A non-water public or municipal utility district. |
| village | A village district. |
| ward | A ward. |
| water | A water district. |
| other | Any district not described above. Use the <i>OtherType</i> field to describe it. |

office_term_type

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| full-term | This election is for an office for which the existing term has been completed. |
| unexpired-term | This election is for an office for which the original term is not yet complete. |

oeb_enum

| Tag | Description |
|------|--|
| both | Both even and odd addresses within the range. |
| even | Only even-numbered addresses within the range. |
| odd | Only odd-numbered addresses within the range. |

ballot_measure_type

A list of the various types of ballot measures. States may have different legal definitions of each type; [Wikipedia_](#) has more details about each type. These values are to help states with multiple types of non-candidate-based contests distinguish between each type; as such, the definitions in this table are simple guidelines. Ultimately it is up to the state or local election official to choose the value which best describes the ballot measure(s) in their jurisdiction.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| ballot-measure | A catch-all for generic types of non-candidate-based contests. |
| initiative | These are usually citizen-driven measures to be placed on the ballot. These could include both statutory changes and constitutional amendments. |
| referendum | These could include measures to repeal existing acts of legislation, legislative referrals, and legislatively-referred state constitutional amendments. |
| other | Anything that does not fall into the above categories. |

vote_variation

Note that the descriptions below describe what the enumeration names stand for in the context of the VIP spec, rather than provide general definitions of the election terms that the names correspond to. For example, even though there are majority voting methods that are not “1-of-m” (e.g. ranked choice voting), we constrain “majority” to 1-of-m. We do this to eliminate any source of ambiguity when a single enumeration value needs to be assigned to a contest.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 1-of-m | A method where each voter can select up to one option. |
| ap-proval | ‘Approval voting’ _, where each voter can select as many options as desired. |
| borda | ‘Borda count’ _, where each voter can rank the options, and the rankings are assigned point values. |
| cumulative | ‘Cumulative voting’ _, where each voter can distribute their vote to up to N options. |
| majority | A 1-of-m method where the winner needs more than 50% of the vote to be elected. |
| n-of-m | A method where each voter can select up to N options. |
| plurality | A 1-of-m method where the option with the most votes is elected, regardless of whether the option has more than 50% of the vote. |
| proportional | A ‘proportional representation’ _ method (other than STV), which is any system that elects winners in proportion to the total vote. |
| range | ‘Range voting’ _, where each voter can select a score for each option. |
| rcv | ‘Ranked choice voting’ _ (RCV), where each voter can rank the options, and the ballots are counted in rounds. Also known as instant-runoff voting (IRV) and the single transferable vote (STV). |
| super-majority | A 1-of-m method where the winner needs more than some predetermined fraction of the vote to be elected, where the fraction is more than 50% (e.g. three-fifths or two-thirds). |
| other | Used when the vote variation type is not included in this enumeration. |

Elements (Separate Pages)

ballot_measure_contest

The BallotMeasureContest provides information about a ballot measure before the voters, including summary statements on each side. Extends *contest_base*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---|---|
| con_statement | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a statement in opposition to the referendum. It does not necessarily appear on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| effect_of_abstain | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies what effect abstaining (i.e. not voting) on this proposition will have (i.e. whether abstaining is considered a vote against it). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| full_text | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the full text of the referendum as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| info_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI that links to additional information about the referendum. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| passage_threshold | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the threshold of votes that the referendum needs in order to pass. The default is a simple majority (i.e. 50% plus one vote). Other common thresholds are “three-fifths” and “two-thirds”. If there are ‘competing initiatives’ , information about their effect on the passage of the BallotMeasureContest would go here. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| pro_statement | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a statement in favor of the referendum. It does not necessarily appear on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| summary_text | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a short summary of the referendum that is on the ballot, below the title, but above the text. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the particular type of ballot measure. Must be one of the valid <i>ballot_measure_type</i> options. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging a new <i>ballot_measure_type</i> option, when Type is specified as “other.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```
1 id, abbreviation, Contest, ballot_selection_ids, ballot_sub_title, ballot_title, elecoral_
  ↳ district_id, electorate_specification, external_identifier_type, external_identifier_
  ↳ othertype, external_identifier_value, has_rotation, name, sequence_order, vote_variation,
  ↳ other_vote_variation, con_statement, effect_of_abstain, full_text, info_uri, passage_
  ↳ threshold, pro_statement, summary_text, type, other_type
2 bmc0001, HB2, bs001 bs002 bs003, Raising levy for School Bond, School Bond Issue, ed001,
  ↳ all registered voters, , 54, false, School Bond, 42, majority, , This is no good., No effect,
  ↳ A measure to do raise funds for etc etc, www.ballotmeasure.com, two-thirds, Everything_
  ↳ will be great., It's a referendum about school funding, referendum,
```

contest_base

A base model for all Contest types: *ballot_measure_contest*, *candidate_contest*, *party_contest*, and *retention_contest* (NB: the latter because it extends *ballot_measure_contest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_selection_id | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <i>ballot_selection_base</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_sub_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- toral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <i>electoral_district</i> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- torate_specification | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| ex- ter- nal_identifiers | xs:string | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| has_rotation | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 176 | | | | | |
| se- | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the | If the field is |

ballot_measure_selection

Represents the possible selection (e.g. yes/no, recall/do not recall, et al) for a *ballot_measure_contest* that would appear on the ballot. BallotMeasureSelection extends *ballot_selection_base*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|--|
| selection | xs:string | Required | Single | Selection text for a <i>ballot_measure_contest</i> | If the element is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the BallotMeasureSelection containing it. |

```

1 id, sequence_order, selection
2 bms001, 1, Proposition A
3 bms002, 2, Proposition B

```

ballot_selection_base

A base model for all ballot selection types: *ballot_measure_selection*, *candidate_selection*, and *party_selection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| sequence_order | xs:integer | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>ordered_contest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

ballot_style

A container for the contests/measures on the ballot.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| image_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI that returns an image of the sample ballot. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ordered_contests_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | Reference to a set of <i>ordered_contest</i> | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| party_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | Reference to a set of <i>:ref:'multi-csv-party'</i> 's. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, image_uri, ordered_contest_ids, party_ids
2 bs00010, http://i.giphy.com/26BoCh3PgT8ai45ji.gif, oc2025, par02
3 bs00011, http://i.giphy.com/3oEjHYDWEICgEpAOjK.gif, oc3000 oc2025, par01

```

candidate

The Candidate object represents a candidate in a contest. If a candidate is running in multiple contests, each contest **must** have its own Candidate object. Candidate objects may **not** be reused between Contests.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|---|-----------|----------|---|--|
| ballot_name | xs:string | Required | Single | The candidate’s name as it will be displayed on the official ballot (e.g. “Ken T. Cuccinelli II”). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the Candidate element containing it. |
| contact_information | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for this Candidate and/or their campaign (see <i>contact_information</i>). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| external_identifiers | <i>external_identifier</i> | Optional | Single | Another identifier for a candidate that links to another source of information (e.g. a campaign committee ID that links to a campaign finance system). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| file_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Date when the candidate filed for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_incumbent | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the candidate is the incumbent for the office associated with the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_top_ticket | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the candidate is the top of a ticket that includes multiple candidates. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| party_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to a <i>party</i> element with additional information about the candidate’s affiliated party. This is the party affiliation that is intended to be presented as part of ballot information. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| person_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Reference to a <i>person</i> element with additional information about the candidate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| post_election_status | <i>election_date_post_election_status</i> | Optional | Single | Final status of the candidate (e.g. winner, withdrawn, etc...). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| pre_election_status | <i>election_date_pre_election_status</i> | Optional | Single | Registration status of the candidate (e.g. filed, qualified, etc...). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,ballot_name,external_identifier_type,external_identifier_othertype,external_
  ↳identifier_value,file_date,is_incumbent,is_top_ticket,party_id,person_id,post_
  ↳election_status,pre_election_status
2 can001,Jude Fawley,,,,,2016-12-01,true,false,par01,per50001,,filed
3 can002,Arabella Donn,,,,,2016-12-01,false,false,par02,per50002,,qualified
4 can003,John Coltrane,,,,,2016-09-23,false,false,par02,per50003,,qualified
5 can004,Miles Davis,,,,,2016-05-26,false,false,par01,per50004,,qualified
  
```

candidate_contest

CandidateContest extends *contest_base* and represents a contest among candidates.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| number_elected | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Number of candidates that are elected in the contest (i.e. “N” of N-of-M). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| office_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>office</i> elements, if available, which give additional information about the offices. Note: the order of the office IDs must be in the same order as the candidates listed in <i>BallotSelectionIds</i> . E.g., if the various <i>BallotSelectionIds</i> reference <i>candidate_selection</i> elements which reference the candidate for President first and Vice-President second, the <i>OfficeIds</i> should reference the office of President first and the office of Vice-President second. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| primary_party_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References <i>party</i> elements, if the contest is related to a particular party. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| votes_allowed | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Maximum number of votes/write-ins per voter in this contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, abbreviation, ballot_selection_ids, ballot_sub_title, ballot_title, electoral_
  ↳ district_id, electorate_specification, external_identifier_type, external_identifier_
  ↳ othertype, external_identifier_value, has_rotation, name, sequence_order, vote_variation,
2 cancon001, SE-1, bs001 bs002, , Governor of Virginia, ed001, all registered voters, fips, ,
  ↳ 49, true, Governor, 1, , 1, off001, par01, 1
3 cancon002, SE-2, bs003 bs004, , Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, ed001, all registered_
  ↳ voters, fips, , 49, true, Lt Governor, 2, , 1, off002, par01, 1
    
```

contest_base

A base model for all Contest types: *ballot_measure_contest*, *candidate_contest*, *party_contest*, and *retention_contest* (NB: the latter because it extends *ballot_measure_contest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_selection_id | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>ballot_selection_base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_sub_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- toral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <code>electoral_district</code> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- torate_specification | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| ex- ter- nal_identifiers | xs:string | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| has_rotation | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 180 | | | | | |
| se- | xs:int | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the | If the field is |

candidate_selection

CandidateSelection extends *ballot_selection_base* and represents a ballot selection for a candidate contest.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| candidate_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>candidate</i> elements. The number of candidates that can be references is unbounded in cases where the ballot selection is for a ticket (e.g. “President/Vice President”, “Governor/Lt Governor”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| endorsement_party_ids | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <i>party</i> elements, which signifies one or more endorsing parties for the candidate(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_write_in | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Signifies if the particular ballot selection allows for write-in candidates. If true, one or more write-in candidates are allowed for this contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,sequence_order,candidate_ids,endorsement_party_ids,is_write_in
2 cs001,3,can004,par01,false
3 cs002,2,can001 can002,par03 par02,false
4 cs003,1,can003,par02 par03,true

```

ballot_selection_base

A base model for all ballot selection types: *ballot_measure_selection*, *candidate_selection*, and *party_selection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| sequence_order | xs:int | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>ordered_contest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

election

The Election object represents an Election Day, which usually consists of many individual contests and/or referenda. A feed must contain **exactly one** Election object. All relationships in the feed (e.g., street segment to precinct to polling location) are assumed to relate only to the Election specified by this object. It is permissible, and recommended, to combine unrelated contests (e.g., a special election and a general election) that occur on the same day into one feed with one Election object.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|--|
| date | xs:date | Required | Single | Specifies when the election is being held. The <i>Date</i> is considered to be in the timezone local to the state holding the election. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the Election element containing it. |
| election_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the highest controlling authority for election (e.g., federal, state, county, city, town, etc.) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| state_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Specifies a link to the <i>State</i> element where the election is being held. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the Election element containing it. |
| is_statewide | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the election is statewide. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to default to “yes”. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name for the election (NB: while optional, this element is highly recommended). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| registration_info | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies information about registration for this election either as text or a URI. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| absentee_ballot_info | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies information about requesting absentee ballots either as text or a URI | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| results_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Contains a URI where results for the election may be found | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| polling_hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that Election Day polling locations are open. If polling hours differ in specific polling locations, alternative hours may be specified in the <i>polling_location</i> object (NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <i>ref</i> : ‘multi-csv-hours-open’ element. It is strongly encour- | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to |

```

1 id,date,name,election_type,state_id,is_statewide,registration_info,absentee_ballot_
  ↳info,results_uri,polling_hours,has_election_day_registration,registration_deadline,
  ↳absentee_request_deadline,hours_open_id
2 e001,10-08-2016,Best Hot Dog,State,st51,true,www.registrationinfo.com,You can vote_
  ↳absentee,http://hotdogcontest.gov/results,Noon to 3p.m.,true,10/08/2016,,ho002
    
```

election_administration

The Election Administration represents an institution for serving a locality’s (or state’s) election functions.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| absentee_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies the web address for information on absentee voting. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| am_i_registered | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies the web address for information on whether an individual is registered. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| department | department | Required | Repeats | Describes the administrative body for a particular voter service. | There must be at least one valid <i>Department</i> in each <i>ElectionAdministration</i> element. If no valid <i>Department</i> objects are present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>ElectionAdministration</i> object that contains it/them. |
| elections_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address the administration’s website. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| registration_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address for information on registering to vote. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| rules_uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI for the election rules and laws (if any) for the jurisdiction of the administration. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| what_is_on_my_ballot | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | Specifies web address for information on what is on an individual’s ballot. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| where_do_i_vote | xs:anyURI | Optional | Single | The Specifies web address for information on where an individual votes based on their address. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,absentee_uri,am_i_registered_uri,elections_uri,registration_uri,rules_uri,what_is_
  ↳on_my_ballot_uri,where_do_i_vote_uri
2 ea123,https://example.com/absentee,https://example.com/am-i-registered,https://
  ↳example.com/elections,https://example.com/registration,https://example.com/rules,
  ↳https://example.com/what-is-on-my-ballot,https://example.com/where-do-i-vote
3 ea345,https://example.com/absentee2,https://example.com/am-i-registered2,https://
  ↳example.com/elections2,https://example.com/registration2,https://example.com/rules2,
  ↳https://example.com/what-is-on-my-ballot2,https://example.com/where-do-i-vote2
    
```

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```
4 ea625,https://example.com/absentee3,https://example.com/am-i-registered3,https://
  ↪example.com/elections3,https://example.com/registration3,https://example.com/rules3,
  ↪https://example.com/what-is-on-my-ballot3,https://example.com/where-do-i-vote3
```

department

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------|-----------|--|---|
| contact_information | <i>contact_information</i> | Optional | Single | Contact and physical address information for the election administration body (see <i>contact_information</i>). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| election_official_person_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The individual to contact at the election administration office. The specified person should be the <i>election official</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| voter_service | multi-csv-voter-service | Optional | Repeats | The types of services and appropriate contact individual available to voters. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```
1 id,election_official_person_id,election_administration_id
2 dep01,per50002,ea123
3 dep02,per50002,ea345
4 dep03,per50002,ea625
5 dep04,per50002,ea625
```

voter_service

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------|-----------|--|---|
| contact_information | <i>contact_information</i> | Optional | Single | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| description | xs:string | Optional | Single | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| election_official_person_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | <i>voter_service_type</i> | Optional | Single | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```
1 id,description,election_official_person_id,type,other_type,department_id
2 vs01,A service we provide,per50002,other,overseas-voting,dep01
```

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```
3 vs00,Elections notifications,per50002,other,voter-registration,dep02
4 vs02,Pencil sharpening,per50002,other,office-help,dep03
5 vs03,Guided hike to polling place,per50002,other,polling-places,dep03
6 vs04,Bike messenger ballot delivery,per50002,other,absentee-ballots,dep03
```

contact_information

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *election_administration*, *office*, *person*, *source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref: ‘multi-csv-hours-open’ element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format.</i>) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open_id | IDREF | Optional | Single | References an <i>hours_open</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_lng | lat_lng | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,address_line_1,address_line_2,address_line_3,directions,email,fax,hours,hours_
  ↪open_id,latitude,longitude,latlng_source,name,phone,uri,parent_id
2 ci0827,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,off01
3 ci0828,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,vs01
    
```

voter_service

| Tag | Data Type | Re-quired? | Re-peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|--|---|
| con- tact_information | <i>con- tact_inform</i> | Op- tional | Sin- gle | The contact for a particular voter service. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| description | xs:string | Op- tional | Sin- gle | Long description of the services available. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| elec- tion_official_ | xs:IDREF person_id | Op- tional | Sin- gle | The <i>authority</i> for a particular voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | <i>voter_servic</i> | Op- tional | Sin- gle | The type of <i>voter service</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Op- tional | Sin- gle | If Type is “other”, OtherType allows for cataloging another type of voter service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,description,election_official_person_id,type,other_type,department_id
2 vs01,A service we provide,per50002,other,overseas-voting,dep01
3 vs00,Elections notifications,per50002,other,voter-registration,dep02
4 vs02,Pencil sharpening,per50002,other,office-help,dep03
5 vs03,Guided hike to polling place,per50002,other,polling-places,dep03
6 vs04,Bike messenger ballot delivery,per50002,other,absentee-ballots,dep03

```

electoral_district

The ElectoralDistrict object represents the geographic area in which contests are held. Examples of ElectoralDistrict include: “the state of Maryland”, “Virginia’s 5th Congressional District”, or “Union School District”. The geographic area that comprises a ElectoralDistrict is defined by which precincts link to the ElectoralDistrict.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| external_identifier | external_identifiers | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link to external datasets (e.g. 'OCD-IDs') | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the electoral area's name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the ElectoralDistrict object containing it. |
| number | xs:integer | Optional | Single | Specifies the district number of the district (e.g. 34, in the case of the 34th State Senate District). If a number is not applicable, instead of leaving the field blank, leave this field out of the object; empty strings are not valid for xs:integer fields. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| type | district_type | Required | Single | Specifies the type of electoral area. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore the ElectoralDistrict object containing it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging a new <i>district_type</i> option when Type is specified as "other". | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,external_identifier_type,external_identifier_othertype,external_identifier_value,
2 ↪name,number,type,other_type
3 ed001,ocd-id,,ocd-division/country:us/state:ny/borough:brooklyn,Brooklyn,1,borough,
ed002,other,community-board,4,CB 4,2,other,community-board
    
```

external_identifier

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| type | identifier_type | Required | Single | Specifies the type of identifier. Must be one of the valid types as defined by <i>identifier_type</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the ElectionIdentifier containing it. |
| other_type | xs:string | Optional | Single | Allows for cataloging an ExternalIdentifier type that falls outside the options listed in <i>identifier_type</i> . Type should be set to "other" when using this field. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| value | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the identifier. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the ElectionIdentifier containing it. |

external_identifiers

The `ExternalIdentifiers` element allows VIP data to connect with external datasets (e.g. candidates with campaign finance datasets, electoral geographies with `OCD-IDs` that allow for greater connectivity with additional datasets, etc...). Examples for `ExternalIdentifiers` can be found on the objects that support them:

- *candidate*
- Any element that extends *contest_base*
- *electoral_district*
- *locality*
- *office*
- *party*
- *precinct*
- *state*

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| external_identifier | external_identifier | Required | Repeats | Defines the identifier and the type of identifier it is (see ' <code>ExternalIdentifier</code> '_ for complete information). | At least one valid ' <code>ExternalIdentifier</code> '_ must be present for <code>ExternalIdentifiers</code> to be valid. If no valid ' <code>ExternalIdentifier</code> '_ is present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>ExternalIdentifiers</code> element. |

hours_open

A structured way of describing the days and hours that a place such as a *office* or *polling_location* is open, or that an event such as an *election* is happening. The range of days indicated by the *StartDate* and *EndDate* in each *Schedule* element should not overlap with peer *Schedule* elements. For example, it is invalid to specify a schedule from 10/01/2016 to 10/31/2016 and also specify a schedule from 10/10/2016 to 10/11/2016 within the same *HoursOpen* element.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| schedule | schedule | Required | Repeats | Defines a block of days and hours that a place will be open. | At least one valid <i>Schedule</i> must be present for <code>HoursOpen</code> to be valid. If no valid <i>Schedule</i> is present, the implementation is required to ignore the <code>HoursOpen</code> element. |

schedule

A sub-portion of the schedule. This describes a range of days, along with one or more set of open and close times for those days, as well as the options describing whether or not appointments are necessary or possible.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| hours | <i>hours</i> | Optional | Repeats | Blocks of hours in the date range in which the place is open. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_only_by_appointment | boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is only open during the specified time window with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_or_by_appointment | boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place is open during the hours specified time window and may also be open with an appointment. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_subject_to_change | boolean | Optional | Single | If true, the place should be open during the specified time window, but may be subject to change. People should contact prior to arrival to confirm hours are still accurate. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| start_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options begin. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | The date at which this collection of start and end times and options end. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,start_time,end_time,is_only_by_appointment,is_or_by_appointment,is_subject_to_
  ↪change,start_date,end_date,hours_open_id
2 sch001,07:00:00-06:00,22:00:00-06:00,,true,,2016-10-10,2016-10-12,ho001
3 sch002,09:00:00-06:00,20:00:00-06:00,true,,,2016-10-13,2016-10-15,ho001
4 sch003,08:00:00-06:00,14:00:00-06:00,,,true,2016-10-10,2016-10-15,ho002
    
```

hours

The open and close time for this place. All times must be fully specified, including a timezone offset from UTC.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| start_time | <i>time_with_zone</i> | Optional | Single | The time at which this place opens. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_time | <i>time_with_zone</i> | Optional | Single | The time at which this place closes. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

time_with_zone

A string pattern restricting the value to a time with an included offset from UTC. The pattern is

```
(([01][0-9]|2[0-3]):[0-5][0-9]:[0-5][0-9]|(24:00:00))(Z|[-+])([0-9]|1[0-3]):[0-5][0-9]|14
```

```

1 <HoursOpen id="hours0001">
2   <Schedule>
3     <Hours>
4       <StartTime>06:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
5       <EndTime>12:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
6     </Hours>
7     <Hours>
8       <StartTime>13:00:00-05:00</StartTime>
9       <EndTime>19:00:00-05:00</EndTime>
10    </Hours>
11    <StartDate>2013-11-05</StartDate>
12    <EndDate>2013-11-05</EndDate>
13  </Schedule>
14 </HoursOpen>

```

internationalized_text

InternationalizedText allows for support of multiple languages for a string. InternationalizedText has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID). Examples of InternationalizedText can be seen in:

- Any element that extends *contest_base*
- Any element that extends *ballot_selection_base*
- *candidate*
- *contact_information*
- *election*
- *election_administration*
- *office*
- *party*
- *person*
- *polling_location*
- *source*

NOTE: InternationalizedText is not currently supported for VIP feeds in the CSV format.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| text | xs:string | Required | Repeats | Contains the translations of a particular string of text. | At least one valid Text must be present for InternationalizedText to be valid. If no valid Text is present, the implementation is required to ignore the InternationalizedText element. |

language_string

LanguageString extends `xs:string` and can contain text from any language. LanguageString has one required attribute, `language`, that must contain the 2-character `language code` for the type of language LanguageString contains.

```

1 <BallotTitle>
2   <Text language="en">Retention of Supreme Court Justice</Text>
3   <Text language="es">La retención de juez de la Corte Suprema</Text>
4 </BallotTitle>

```

locality

The Locality object represents the jurisdiction below the *state* (e.g. county).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| <code>election_administration_id</code> | <code>xs:IDREF</code> | Optional | Single | Links to the locality's <i>election_administration</i> object. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| <code>external_identifiers</code> | <code>external_identifiers</code> | Optional | Single | Another identifier for a locality that links to another dataset (e.g. 'OCD-ID') | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| <code>name</code> | <code>xs:string</code> | Required | Single | Specifies the name of a locality. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the Locality element containing it. |
| <code>polling_location_ids</code> | <code>xs:string</code> | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to a set of the locality's <code>:ref:'polling locations <multicsv-polling-location>'s</code> . If early vote centers or ballot drop locations are locality-wide, they should be specified here. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore it. However, the implementation should still check to see if there are any polling locations associated with this locality's state. |
| <code>state_id</code> | <code>xs:IDREF</code> | Required | Single | References the locality's <i>state</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the Locality element containing. |
| <code>type</code> | <code>district_type</code> | Optional | Single | Defines the kind of locality (e.g. county, town, et al.), which is one of the various <i>DistrictType enumerations</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| <code>other_type</code> | <code>xs:string</code> | Optional | Single | Allows for defining a type of locality that falls outside the options listed in <i>DistrictType</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,election_administration_id,external_identifier_type,external_identifier_othertype,
2 ↪external_identifier_value,name,polling_location_ids,state_id,type,other_type
3 loc001,ea123,ocd-id,,ocd-division/country:us/state:co/county:denver,Locality #1,
4 ↪poll001 poll002,st51,city,
5 loc002,ea345,,,,Locality #2,,st51,other,unique type

```

office

Office represents the office associated with a contest or district (e.g. Alderman, Mayor, School Board, et al).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| contact_information | <i>contact_information</i> | Optional | Repeats | Specifies the contact information for the office and/or individual holding the office. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| description | xs:string | Optional | Single | A brief description of the office and its purpose. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| electoral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>electoral_district</i> element associated with the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| external_identifiers | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link this office to other related datasets (e.g. campaign finance systems, OCD IDs, et al.). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| filing_deadline | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the date and time when a candidate must have filed for the contest for the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_partisan | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the office is partisan. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | The name of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| office_holder_person_ids | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the <i>person</i> element(s) that hold additional information about the current office holder(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| term | <i>term</i> | Optional | Single | Defines the term the office can be held. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,electoral_district_id,external_identifier_type,external_identifier_othertype,
2 ↪external_identifier_value,filing_deadline,is_partisan,name,office_holder_person_ids,
3 ↪term_type,term_start_date,term_end_date
4 off001,ed001,,,,,true,Deputy Chief of Staff,per50003,full-term,2002-01-21,
5 off002,ed001,,,,,true,Deputy Deputy Chief of Staff,per50001,unexpired-term,2002-01-
6 ↪21,
7 off003,ed001,,,,,false,General Secretary of Secretaries,per50004,full-term,2002-01-
8 ↪21,

```

term

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------|-------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| type | <i>office_term_type</i> | Optional | Single | Specifies the type of office term (see <i>office_term_type</i> for valid values). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the <i>Office</i> element containing it. |
| start_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the start date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| end_date | xs:date | Optional | Single | Specifies the end date for the current term of the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

contact_information

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. ContactInformation is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *election_administration*, *office*, *person*, *source*). ContactInformation has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Occurs? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------|--|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <code>:ref: 'multi-csv-hours-open'</code> element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format</i>). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open_id | xs:string | Optional | Single | References an <i>hours_open</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_long | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| uri | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,address_line_1,address_line_2,address_line_3,directions,email,fax,hours,hours_
  ↪open_id,latitude,longitude,latlng_source,name,phone,uri,parent_id
2 ci0827,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,off001
3 ci0828,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,vs01
  
```

ordered_contest

OrderedContest encapsulates links to the information that comprises a contest and potential ballot selections. OrderedContest elements can be collected within a *ballot_style* to accurately depict exactly what will show up on a particular ballot in the proper order.

| Tag | Data Type | Required | Repeats | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|--|--|
| contest_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to elements that extend <i>contest_base</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the OrderedContest element containing it. |
| ordered_ballot_selection_ids | IDREFS | Optional | Single | Links to elements that extend <i>ballot_selection_base</i> -extended elements referenced by the underlying <i>contest_base</i> -extended elements. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore it. If an OrderedBallotSelectionIds element is not present, the presumed order of the selection will be the order of <i>ballot_selection_base</i> -extended elements referenced by the underlying <i>contest_base</i> -extended elements. |

```

1 id,contest_id,ordered_ballot_selection_ids
2 oc2025,con001,bs001 bs002 bs003
3 oc3000,con002,bs001
  
```

party

This element describes a political party and the metadata associated with them. These can also include “dummy” parties to indicate a type of contest (e.g., a Voter Nominated *candidate_contest* can use the **PrimaryPartyIds** field and a dummy Party object to indicate that the contest is a “Top-Two” primary).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the party name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| color | html_color_string | Optional | Single | The preferred display color for the party, for use in maps and other displays. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ex- ter- nal_ide ntifiers | external_identifier_type | Optional | Single | Other identifiers that link this party to other related data sets (e.g. a campaign finance system, etc). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_wri te_in | boolean | Optional | Single | Signals if this political party is one that is officially recognized by a local, state, or federal organization, or is a “write-in” in jurisdictions which allow candidates to free-form enter their political affiliation. If this field is not present then it is assumed to be false. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| logo_ur i | anyURI | Optional | Single | Web address of a logo to use in displays. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the party. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, abbreviation, color, external_identifier_type, external_identifier_othertype,
2 ↪external_identifier_value, logo_uri, name
3 par01, REP, ff0000, , , , http://example.com/elephant.png, Republican
4 par02, DEM, 0000ff, , , , http://example.com/donkey.png, Democrat
5 par03, GRN, efefef, , , , http://example.com/tree.png, Green
6 par04, WFP, ee99aa, , , , http://example.com/worker.png, Working Families Party

```

html_color_string

A restricted string pattern for a six-character hex code representing an HTML color string. The pattern is:

```
[0-9a-f]{6}
```

party_contest

An extension of *contest_base* which describes a contest in which the possible ballot selections are of type *party_selection*. These could include contests in which straight-party selections are allowed, or party-list contests (although these are more common outside of the United States).


```
1 id, abbreviation, ballot_selection_ids, ballot_sub_title, ballot_title, electoral_  
↪ district_id, electorate_specification, external_identifier_type, external_identifier_  
↪ othertype, external_identifier_value, has_rotation, name, sequence_order, vote_variation,  
↪ other_vote_variation  
2 pcon001, PC1071, bs001 bs002, , Party Election, ed001, all registered voters, , , , false,  
↪ Straight Party Vote, 3, ,
```

contest_base

A base model for all Contest types: *ballot_measure_contest*, *candidate_contest*, *party_contest*, and *retention_contest* (NB: the latter because it extends *ballot_measure_contest*).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| ab- bre- via- tion | xs:string | Optional | Single | An abbreviation for the contest. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_selection_id | xs:IDREFS | Optional | Single | References a set of <code>BallotSelections</code> , which could be of any selection type that extends <code>ballot_selection_base</code> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_sub_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Subtitle of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| bal- lot_title | xs:string | Optional | Single | Title of the contest as it appears on the ballot. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- toral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | References an <code>electoral_district</code> element that represents the geographical scope of the contest. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| elec- torate_specification | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies any changes to the eligible electorate for this contest past the usual, “all registered voters” electorate. This subtag will most often be used for primaries and local elections. In primaries, voters may have to be registered as a specific party to vote, or there may be special rules for which ballot a voter can pull. In some local elections, non-citizens can vote. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| ex- ter- nal_identifiers | xs:string | Optional | Single | Other identifiers for a contest that links to another source of information. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| has_rotation | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates whether the selections in the contest are rotated. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Name of the contest, not necessarily how it appears on the ballot (NB: <code>BallotTitle</code> should be used for this purpose). | If the field is invalid, then the implementation should ignore it. |
| 198 | | | | | |
| se- | xs:int | Optional | Single | Order in which the contests are listed on the ballot. This is the | If the field is |

party_selection

This element extends *ballot_selection_base* to support contests in which the selections can be groups of one or more parties.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| party_ids | IDREFS | Required | Single | One or more <i>party</i> IDs which collectively represent a ballot selection. | If one or more parties referenced are invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the PartySelection containing it. |

```

1 id,sequence_order,party_ids
2 ps001,1,par01 par04
3 ps002,2,par02
4 ps003,3,par03

```

ballot_selection_base

A base model for all ballot selection types: *ballot_measure_selection*, *candidate_selection*, and *party_selection*.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| sequence_order | xs:integer | Optional | Single | The order in which a selection can be listed on the ballot or in results. This is the default ordering, and can be overridden by <i>OrderedBallotSlectionIds</i> in <i>ordered_contest</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

person

Person defines information about a person. The person may be a candidate, election administrator, or elected official. These elements reference Person:

- *candidate*
- *election_administration*
- *office*

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| contact_information | <i>contact_information</i> | Optional | Repeats | Specifies contact information for the person. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| date_of_birth | date | Optional | Single | Represents the individual's date of birth. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| external_identifiers | <i>external_identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Identifiers for this person. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| first_names | string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's first name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| full_names | string | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's full name (NB: this information is <i>internationalized_text</i> because it sometimes appears on ballots in multiple languages). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| gender | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's gender. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| last_names | string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's last name. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| middle_name | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | Represents any number of names between an individual's first and last names (e.g. John Ronald Reuel Tolkien). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| nickname | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents an individual's nickname. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| party_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Refers to the associated <i>party</i> . This information is intended to be used by feed consumers to help them disambiguate the person's identity, but not to be presented as part of any ballot information. For that see <i>candidate PartyId</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| prefix | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a prefix associated with a person (e.g. Dr.). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| profession | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a person's profession (NB: this information is <i>internationalized_text</i> because it sometimes appears on ballots in multiple languages). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| suffix | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a suffix associated with a person (e.g. Jr.). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| title | xs:string | Optional | Single | A title associated with a person (NB: this information is <i>internationalized_text</i> because it sometimes appears on ballots in multiple languages). | If the element is in- |

```
1 id,date_of_birth,first_name,gender,last_name,middle_name,nickname,party_id,prefix,  
  ↪profession,suffix,title  
2 per50001,1961-08-04,Barack,male,Obama,Hussein,,par02,,President,II,Mr. President  
3 per50002,1985-11-21,Carly,female,Jepsen,Rae,,par01,,Recording Artist,,  
4 per50003,1926-09-23,John,male,Coltrane,William,Trane,par02,,Recording Artist,Saint,  
5 per50004,1926-05-26,Miles,male,Davis,Dewey,,par01,,Recording Artist,III,
```

contact_information

For defining contact information about objects such as persons, boards of authorities, organizations, etc. `ContactInformation` is always a sub-element of another object (e.g. *election_administration*, *office*, *person*, *source*). `ContactInformation` has an optional attribute `label`, which allows the feed to refer back to the original label for the information (e.g. if the contact information came from a CSV, `label` may refer to a row ID).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | The “location” portion of a mailing address. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| email | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | An email address for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| fax | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A fax line for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the location is open (<i>NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured :ref: ‘multi-csv-hours-open’ element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format.</i>) | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open_id | IDREF | Optional | Single | References an <i>hours_open</i> element, which lists the hours of operation for a location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_lng | lat_lng | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this entity. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | The name of the location or contact. See usage note. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| phone | xs:string | Optional | Repeats | A phone number for the contact. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| uri | xs:anyURI | Optional | Repeats | An informational URI for the contact or location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,address_line_1,address_line_2,address_line_3,directions,email,fax,hours,hours_
  ↪open_id,latitude,longitude,latlng_source,name,phone,uri,parent_id
2 ci0827,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,off001
3 ci0828,The White House,1600 Pennsylvania Ave,,,josh@example.com,,Early to very late,,
  ↪,,,Josh Lyman,555-111-2222,http://lemonlyman.example.com,vs01
    
```

polling_location

The PollingLocation object represents a site where voters cast or drop off ballots.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| address_line | xs:string | Required | Repeats | Represents the various parts of an address to a polling location. For CSV implementations, repeating address_line columns should be incremented, e.g. address_line1, address_line2, address_line3. | At least one valid AddressLine must be present for PollingLocation to be valid. If no valid AddressLine is present, the implementation is required to ignore the PollingLocation element containing it. |
| directions | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies further instructions for locating the polling location. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains the hours (in local time) that the polling location is open (NB: this element is deprecated in favor of the more structured <i>hours_open</i> element. It is strongly encouraged that data providers move toward contributing hours in this format). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| hours_open_id | xs:string | Optional | Single | Links to an <i>hours_open</i> element, which is a schedule of dates and hours during which the polling location is available. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_drop_box | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates if this polling location is a drop box. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_early_voting | boolean | Optional | Single | Indicates if this polling location is an early vote site. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| lat_lng | lat:longitude | Optional | Single | Specifies the latitude and longitude of this polling location. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Name of the polling location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| photo_uri | xs:string | Optional | Single | Contains a link to an image of the polling location. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,name,address_line,directions,hours,photo_uri,hours_open_id,is_drop_box,is_early_
  ↪voting,latitude,longitude,latlng_source
2 poll001,ALBERMARLE HIGH SCHOOL,"2775 Hydraulic Rd Charlottesville, VA 22901,Use_
  ↪back door,7am-8pm,www.picture.com,ho001,false,true,38.0754627,78.5014875,Google Maps
3 poll002,Public Library, Main St Denver,next to the checkout counter,7am-8pm,www.
  ↪picture.com,,false,true,38.0754627,78.5014875,Google Maps
4 poll003,Historic Society,,wheelchair entrance,7am-8pm,www.picture.com,,false,true,,,
5 poll004,Community Center,,behind the big oak tree,7am-8pm,www.picture.com,,false,
  ↪true,,,
    
```

lat_long

The latitude and longitude of a polling location in 'WGS 84' format. Both latitude and longitude values are measured in decimal degrees.

| Tag | Data Type | Required | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------|-----------|----------|----------|--|---|
| latitude | xs:double | Required | Single | The latitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| longitude | xs:double | Required | Single | The longitude of the polling location. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| latlong_source | string | Optional | Single | The system used to perform the lookup from location name to lat/lng. For example, this could be the name of a geocoding service. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

precinct

The Precinct object represents a precinct, which is contained within a Locality. While the id attribute does not have to be static across feeds for one election, the combination of *Source.VipId*, *Locality.Name*, *Precinct.Ward*, *Precinct.Name*, and *Precinct.Number* should remain constant across feeds for one election (NB: not all of the fields just mentioned are required – omitting those non-required fields is fine).

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|----------|---|--|
| ballot_style_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the <i>ballot_style</i> , which a person who lives in this precinct will vote. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| electoral_district_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the :ref:'multi-csv-electoral-district's (e.g., congressional district, state house district, school board district) to which the entire precinct/precinct split belongs. Highly Recommended if candidate information is to be provided. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| external_identifiers | xs:string | Optional | Single | Other identifier for the precinct that relates to another dataset (e.g. ' OCD-ID '). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| is_mail_only | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Determines if the precinct runs mail-only elections. | If the field is missing or invalid, the implementation is required to assume <i>IsMailOnly</i> is false. |
| locality_id | xs:IDREF | Required | Single | Links to the <i>locality</i> that comprises the precinct. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the precinct element containing it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the precinct's name (or number if no name exists). | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the precinct element containing it. |
| number | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the precinct's number (e.g., 32 or 32A – alpha characters are legal). Should be used if the <i>Name</i> field is populated by a name and not a number. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| polling_location_ids | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to the precinct's <i>polling_location</i> object(s). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| precinct_split_name | xs:string | Optional | Single | If this field is empty, then this <i>Precinct</i> object represents a full precinct. If this field is present, then this <i>Precinct</i> object represents one portion of a split precinct. Each <i>Precinct</i> object that represents one portion of a split precinct must have the same <i>Name</i> value, but different <i>PrecinctSplitName</i> values. See the <i>sample_feed.xml</i> file for examples. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| ward | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the ward the precinct is contained within. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,ballot_style_id,electoral_district_ids,external_identifier_type,external_
  ↪identifier_othertype,external_identifier_value,is_mail_only,locality_id,name,number,
  ↪polling_location_ids,precinct_split_name,ward
2 pre90111,bs00010,ed001,ocd-id,,ocd-division/country:us,false,loc001,203 - GEORGETOWN,
  ↪0203,poll001 poll002,split13,5
3 pre90112,bs00011,ed002,fips,,42,false,loc001,203 - GEORGETOWN,0203,poll003,split26,6
4 pre90113,bs00010,ed003,,,,false,loc002,203 - GEORGETOWN,0203,poll004,split54,7
  
```

retention_contest

RetentionContest extends *ballot_measure_contest* and represents a contest where a candidate is retained in a position (e.g. a judge).

| Tag | Data Type | Re- quired? | Re- peats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------|---|--|
| can- di- date_id | xs:IDREF | Re- quired | Single | Links to the <i>can- didate</i> being retained. | If the field is invalid or not present, the implementation is required to ignore the RetentionContest element containing it. |
| of- fice_id | xs:IDREF | Op- tional | Single | Links to the information about the office. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

source

The Source object represents the organization that is publishing the information. This object is the only required object in the feed file, and only one source object is allowed to be present.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|------------------|-------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of the organization that is providing the information. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the <code>Source</code> element containing it. |
| vip_id | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the ID of the organization. VIP uses FIPS_ codes for this ID. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore the <code>Source</code> element containing it. |
| date_time | xs:dateTime | Required | Single | Specifies the date and time of the feed production. The date/time is considered to be in the timezone local to the organization. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| description | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies both the nature of the organization providing the data and what data is in the feed. | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| organization_uri | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a URI to the home page of the organization publishing the data. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| feed_contact_id | xs:string | Optional | Single | Reference to the <i>person</i> who will respond to inquiries about the information contained within the file. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| terms_of_use_uri | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the website where the Terms of Use for the information in this file can be found. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| version | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the version of the data | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id,date_time,description,name,organization_uri,terms_of_use_uri,vip_id,version
2 source01,2016-06-02T10:24:08,SBE is the official source for Virginia data,"State_
↪Board of Elections, Commonwealth of Virginia",http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/,http://
↪example.com/terms,51,5.1

```

state

The State object includes state-wide election information. The ID attribute is recommended to be the state’s FIPS code, along with the prefix “st”.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| election_administration_id | xs:IDREF | Optional | Single | Links to the state's election administration object. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| external_identifiers | <i>external_identifiers</i> | Optional | Single | Other identifier for the state that relates to another dataset (e.g. ' OCD-ID '). | If the element is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| name | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the name of a state, such as Alabama. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| polling_location_ids | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies a link to the state's <i>polling locations</i> . If early vote centers or ballot drop locations are state-wide (e.g., anyone in the state can use them), they can be specified here, but you are encouraged to only use the <i>precinct</i> element. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, election_administration_id, external_identifier_type, external_identifier_othertype,
2 ↪ external_identifier_value, name, polling_location_ids
   st51, ea123, ocd-id, , ocd-division/country:us/state:va, Virginia,

```

street_segment

A Street Segment objection represents a portion of a street and the links to the precinct that this geography (i.e., segment) is contained within. The start address house number must be less than the end address house number unless the segment consists of only one address, in which case these values are equal.

| Tag | Data Type | Required? | Repeats? | Description | Error Handling |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| address_direction | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the (inter-)cardinal direction of the entire address. An example is “NE” for the address “100 E Capitol St NE.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| city | xs:string | Required | Single | The city specifies the city or town of the address. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| includes_all_addresses | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Specifies if the segment covers every address on this street. If this is <i>true</i> , then the values of StartHouseNumber and EndHouseNumber should be ignored. The value of OddEvenBoth must be <i>both</i> . | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| includes_all_streets | xs:boolean | Optional | Single | Specifies if the segment covers every street in this city. If this is <i>true</i> , then the values of OddEvenBoth , StartHouseNumber , EndHouseNumber , StreetName , and Zip should be ignored. | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| odd_even_both | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies whether the odd side of the street (in terms of house numbers), the even side, or both are included in the street segment. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment containing it. |
| precinct_id | IDREF | Optional | Single | References the <i>precinct</i> that contains the entire street segment. | If the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. |
| start_house_number | integer | Optional | Single | The house number at which the street segment starts. This value is necessary for the street segment to make any sense. Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value must be less than or equal to EndHouseNumber . If IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value is ignored. | Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, if the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. If the StartHouseNumber is greater than the EndHouseNumber , the implementation should ignore the element containing them. |
| end_house_number | integer | Optional | Single | The house number at which the street segment ends. This value is necessary for the street segment to make any sense. Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, it must be greater than or equal to StartHouseNumber . If IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, this value is ignored. | Unless IncludesAllAddresses or IncludesAllStreets are true, if the field is not present or invalid, the implementation is required to ignore the StreetSegment element containing it. If the EndHouseNumber is less than the StartHouseNumber , the implementation should ignore the element containing it. |
| state | xs:string | Required | Single | Specifies the two-letter state abbreviation of the address. | If the field is invalid, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| street_direction | xs:string | Optional | Single | Specifies the (inter-)cardinal direction of the street address (e.g., the “E” in “100 E Capitol St NE”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
| street_name | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents the name of the street for the address. A special wildcard, “*”, denotes every street in the given city/town. It optionally may contain street direction, street suffix or address direction (e.g., both “Capitol” and “E Capitol St NE” are acceptable for the address “100 E Capitol St NE”), however this is not preferred. Preferred is street name alone (e.g. “Capitol”). | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |
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| street_suffix | xs:string | Optional | Single | Represents the abbreviated, non-directional suffix to the street name. An example is “St” for the address “100 E Capitol St NE.” | If the field is invalid or not present, then the implementation is required to ignore it. |

```

1 id, address_direction, city, includes_all_addresses, includes_all_streets, odd_even_both,
  ↳precinct_id, start_house_number, end_house_number, state, street_direction, street_name,
  ↳street_suffix, unit_number, zip
2 ss000001, N, Washington, false, false, odd, pre90113, 101, 199, DC, NW, Delaware, St, , 20001
3 ss000002, S, Washington, true, false, both, pre90112, , , DC, SE, Wisconsin, Ave, , 20002

```

Enumerations (Separate Pages)

ballot_measure_type

A list of the various types of ballot measures. States may have different legal definitions of each type; [Wikipedia](#) has more details about each type. These values are to help states with multiple types of non-candidate-based contests distinguish between each type; as such, the definitions in this table are simple guidelines. Ultimately it is up to the state or local election official to choose the value which best describes the ballot measure(s) in their jurisdiction.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| ballot-measure | A catch-all for generic types of non-candidate-based contests. |
| initiative | These are usually citizen-driven measures to be placed on the ballot. These could include both statutory changes and constitutional amendments. |
| referendum | These could include measures to repeal existing acts of legislation, legislative referrals, and legislatively-referred state constitutional amendments. |
| other | Anything that does not fall into the above categories. |

candidate_post_election_status

| Tag | Description |
|--------------------|--|
| advanced-to-runoff | For contests in which the top N candidates advance to the next round. |
| projected-winner | A candidate is expected to win, but official results are not yet complete. |
| winner | The candidate has officially won. |
| withdrawn | The candidate has withdrawn from the contest. |

candidate_pre_election_status

| Tag | Description |
|-----------|--|
| filed | The candidate has filed for office but not yet been qualified. |
| qualified | The candidate has qualified for the contest. |
| withdrawn | The candidate has withdrawn from the contest (but may still be on the ballot). |
| write-in | |

district_type

Enumeration describing the set of possible jurisdiction and district types. Please use the enumeration value which most accurately reflects the type of district or jurisdiction in your state or county. For example, “town” and “township” may mean different things – or not be defined at all – in your state, so please use the definition which best matches your local meaning.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| borough | A borough |
| city | A city. |
| city-council | A specific seat/jurisdiction for a city, town, or village council. |
| congressional | A United States congressional district. |
| county | A county. |
| county-council | A county council district, either in its entirety or for a specific seat. |
| judicial | A judicial district. |
| municipality | A civil division which is not a town, city, village, or county. |
| national | The United States. |
| school | A school district. |
| special | A 'special-purpose district' that exist separate from general-purpose districts. |
| state | A state, district, commonwealth, or U.S. territory. |
| state-house | The lower house of a state legislature. |
| state-senate | The upper house of a state legislature. |
| town | A town . |
| township | A township, which may be different than a town. See the 'Wikipedia article' . |
| utility | A non-water public or municipal utility district. |
| village | A village district. |
| ward | A ward. |
| water | A water district. |
| other | Any district not described above. Use the <i>OtherType</i> field to describe it. |

identifier_type

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|--|
| fips | Federal Information Processing Standards codes for states , counties , and cities . |
| local-level | An identifier generated or used by local governments or organizations. |
| national-level | An identifier generated or used by national organizations. |
| ocd-id | An 'Open Civic Data Division Identifier' . |
| state-level | An identifier generated or used by state governments or organizations. |
| other | Any identifier which doesn't fall into any of the above categories. |

oeb_enum

| Tag | Description |
|------|--|
| both | Both even and odd addresses within the range. |
| even | Only even-numbered addresses within the range. |
| odd | Only odd-numbered addresses within the range. |

office_term_type

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|---|
| full-term | This election is for an office for which the existing term has been completed. |
| unexpired-term | This election is for an office for which the original term is not yet complete. |

vote_variation

Note that the descriptions below describe what the enumeration names stand for in the context of the VIP spec, rather than provide general definitions of the election terms that the names correspond to. For example, even though there are majority voting methods that are not “1-of-m” (e.g. ranked choice voting), we constrain “majority” to 1-of-m. We do this to eliminate any source of ambiguity when a single enumeration value needs to be assigned to a contest.

| Tag | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 1-of-m | A method where each voter can select up to one option. |
| ap-proval | ‘Approval voting’ _, where each voter can select as many options as desired. |
| borda | ‘Borda count’ _, where each voter can rank the options, and the rankings are assigned point values. |
| cumulative | ‘Cumulative voting’ _, where each voter can distribute their vote to up to N options. |
| majority | A 1-of-m method where the winner needs more than 50% of the vote to be elected. |
| n-of-m | A method where each voter can select up to N options. |
| plurality | A 1-of-m method where the option with the most votes is elected, regardless of whether the option has more than 50% of the vote. |
| proportional | A ‘proportional representation’ _ method (other than STV), which is any system that elects winners in proportion to the total vote. |
| range | ‘Range voting’ _, where each voter can select a score for each option. |
| rcv | ‘Ranked choice voting’ _ (RCV), where each voter can rank the options, and the ballots are counted in rounds. Also known as instant-runoff voting (IRV) and the single transferable vote (STV). |
| super-majority | A 1-of-m method where the winner needs more than some predetermined fraction of the vote to be elected, where the fraction is more than 50% (e.g. three-fifths or two-thirds). |
| other | Used when the vote variation type is not included in this enumeration. |

voter_service_type

| Tag | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| absentee-ballots | This department handles the dispatch, tracking, and return of absentee ballots. |
| overseas-voting | The department for overseas, military, and other outside-the-U.S. voters. |
| polling-places | This department handles the selection and management of polling places. |
| voter-registration | The department that manages voter registration. |
| other | Any other service not covered by the above descriptions. |