

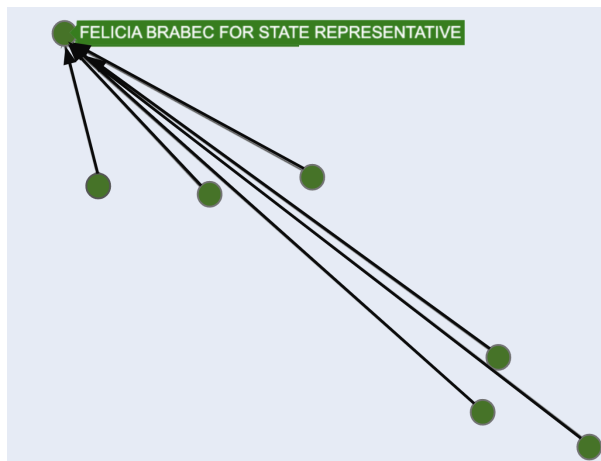
Climate Cabinet Campaign Finance Tracker Project

The Climate Cabinet Campaign Finance Tracker Project, supported by the University of Chicago's Data Science Clinic, enhances transparency in state and local election funding through a climate-conscious lens. There is a notable gap between federal and local state information as well as a speculated gap between fossil fuel and clean energy funding to political campaigns. These issues make it challenging to hold legislators accountable for their environmental policies.

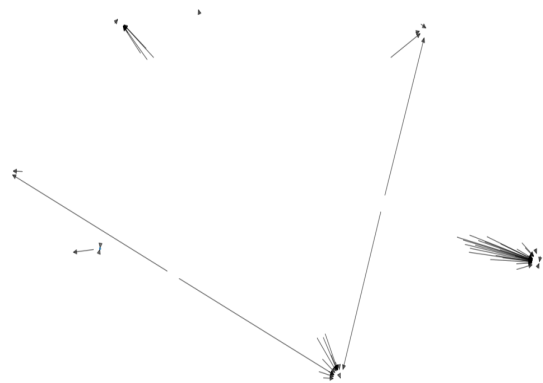
The project team developed a reproducible data pipeline to aggregate, transform, and analyze campaign finance data, integrating election results, finance records, and organizational data to enable the classification of contributions as neutral, fossil fuel, or clean energy-related. After data aggregation and standardization, the team created an interactive network graph to visualize the flow of funds, highlighting major donors and recipients.

The network graph illustrated significant patterns of influence of different energy sectors on local elections. The visualization tool will help Climate Cabinet identify key players, understand funding dynamics, and support its mission to promote data-driven climate legislation through greater accountability.

Network Graph Indicating Campaign Contributions
(2018-2023)



Macro-Level Clustering View of Network Graph (2018-2023)



Static visualization of interactive micro-level network (left) depicting directed flow of campaign contributions to sample entity 'Felicia Brabec for State Representative' from 2018-2023 data subsample. Macro-level view (right) depicts clusters.