President of the Republic of Serbia, Tomislav Nikolic, was in Shoreham for the unveiling of the Nikola Tesla statue.

Shoreham, NY - Under the shining sun on a cool, crisp day in Shoreham Brookhaven Highway Superintendent Dan Losquadro (R, C, I - Shoreham) joined with the president of the Republic of Serbia, Tomislav Nikolic, and elected officials of both nations to celebrate the life of famed scientist, inventor and visionary Nikola Tesla. During the ceremony a monument was unveiled in Tesla's honor. The bronze statue is a gift from the government of Serbia.

Tesla was born to Serbian parents in July 1856 in what is now Smiljan, Croatia. He came to America in 1884 and soon after began working with Thomas Edison. In 1901, Tesla established his laboratory and iconic tower on the grounds of Wardenclyffe in Shoreham, where his only remaining laboratory in the world remains.

"Tesla’s ideas were larger than his time," Republic of Serbia President Tomislav Nikolic said. President Nikolic further spoke of how Mr. Tesla gained international recognition as one of the world’s greatest scientists and to whose genius we owe an accelerated development of our civilization. "Foresight is the true means of genius," Superintendent Losquadro said. "In that regard, Tesla clearly possessed one of the greatest intellects of all time. Nikola Tesla did not just envision what he thought could be done to improve the world, his inventions actually provided some of the greatest discoveries of the modern era. As a resident of Shoreham, it is an honor knowing he did some of his best work right here."

Tesla's achievements are taught and used as inspirational examples in universities throughout the world. Among his many acts of groundbreaking work, Tesla developed a system for the production, transmission and use of alternating current that replaced the inferior direct-current system, which was incapable of long distance power transmission. He also invented the radio, remote control systems, radar, the electronic microscope, robots, and a range of other discoveries in which most modern appliances are based. With over 250 patents, Nikola Tesla is regarded as one of the greatest inventors in the history of science.

"What will be achieved here is a fitting memory to him," said Jane Alcorn, President of The Tesla Science Center at Wardenclyffe. "His genius will be a force of inspiration for future generations."