FIG. 7 is a schematic illustration of a road traffic check, during the course of which a part of the method according to the invention is carried out; and

FIG. 8 shows the method of the invention in the form of the signal flows between the components involved in the method.

In FIG. 1, a vehicle 1 is moving on a road 2 at a speed and in a driving direction 3, and in FIG. 2 several vehicles 1 are parked in each case in a parking space 4 of the road 2. The road 2 can be any arbitrary traffic or parking area, for example an expressway, a highway or an entire road system in FIG. 1, or a shoulder, a large parking space or a parking garage in FIG. 2; all of these are considered to be covered by the general concept of "road" 2.

Each of the vehicles 1 is equipped with an onboard unit (OBU) 5, which is able to carry out wireless communication 8 with roadside beacons (roadside units, RSUs) 6, 7. The OBUs 5 can be separate devices or an integral part of the vehicle electronics system. The communication 8 is short range or dedicated short range communication (DSRC), preferably according to the CEN-DSRC standards using radio or infrared data transmission, ITS-G5, IEEE 802.11p, WAVE, WLAN, RFID, NFC or the like. The beacons 6, 7 thus have a respective locally delimited radio or infrared coverage range 9, 10.

FIGS. 1 and 2 show two different types of beacons 6, 7 and application scenarios of the described components. The beacons 6 of FIG. 1 are "tolling" beacons (tolling roadside units, T-RSUs) that are set up in a geographically distributed manner along the road 2. With the aid of periodically broadcast polls 11, the tolling beacons 6 request all passing OBUs 5 to establish communication 8, as is illustrated based on the exemplary response 12. So as not to "miss" any passing OBU 5 due to the potentially high speed of the vehicle 1, the polls 11 of the tolling beacons 6 are broadcast at relatively short intervals, for example every 100 ms or less. For the polls 11, for example, so-called wave service announcement (WSA) messages

8. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the user account is kept in the central facility, and the traffic violation message is transmitted together with the user selection to the central facility, where the debit transaction is generated.

9. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the user account is kept in the central facility and the debit transaction is generated in the onboard unit and transmitted to the central facility.

10. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized by the ~~preceding~~ step of transmitting a status of the onboard unit to the beacon and creating the traffic violation message in the beacon depending on the received status.

11. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the communication between the beacon and the onboard unit takes place according to the DSRC standard.

12. An onboard unit for a vehicle, comprising a transceiver, an input device and an output device, characterized in that the onboard unit is configured:

to receive a traffic violation message from a beacon and output it on the output device;

to accept a user selection concerning two options via the input device;

if the user selection indicates the first option, to transmit the traffic violation message to a remote central facility; or

if the user selection indicates the second option, to initiate the generation of a debit transaction for a user account related to the traffic violation.

13. The onboard unit according to claim 12, characterized by comprising a stored modifiable status and being configured to transmit the status via the transceiver to the beacon in response to a wireless poll.